

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS



No. 54.—VOL. II.]

FOR THE WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, MAY 13, 1843.
OFFICE, 198 STRAND.

[SIXPENCE.]

THE CONQUEST OF SCINDE.

In other columns of this journal will be found an account of brilliant successes in India, achieved by British troops—of a great city taken, a great battle won, a million of money grasped as treasure, and another fine and fertile country added to the dominions of the Crown, and swelling the vast and wondrous extent of our mighty empire. Behind these sounding and magnificent triumphs, however, a grave question lurks. Have we gained them in honour?—without doubt of right?—without disarming justice by expediency?—without setting the fatal vice of mere interested policy above the brightness and the beauty of truth? There are several of our contemporaries, Ministerial and Opposition, who appear to think these new conquests won at the expense of public virtue—who judge that a spirit of bold and bad ambition has stirred the energies of a grasping government to display its nerve and power only to aggrandize, to intimidate, to despoil. It is argued with solemn sense, and in a fair spirit of philanthropy, that if our Governor-General in India has converted well-disposed friends into subjected foes—if he has conciliated the Ameers only to conquer them—if he has gained a footing among a brave and intelligent people only to rob them of their country for their good-fellowship, and to fix the broad arrow of the Crown upon lands which it could not fairly or honourably claim to sway, then he may have followed out the rapacious policy which distinguished former oriental victories; but, assuredly, he will not have promoted the aims of humanity or the ends of civilization, or added one laurel to the wreath of lustre which girds the brow of Freedom, and has lent so much of its brightness and glory to the independence of the British name. The truth of this argument our readers are not of a class to dispute. They will readily agree to a proposition which has its dictates from humanity, and its spirit in pure justice, and which refuses to yield the claims of either to the most magnificent inducements of ambition, and the most tempting lures of power or of wealth. The virtuous community would rather that we should have suffered comparative disgrace in the Indian territory of Scinde than that we should have won a single inch of its fertile soil at the cost of the moral character of our country—of that national pride of honesty and frankness which clings instinctively to the truly English heart. Most deeply would have been experienced the mortification of knowing that a naturally jealous, brave, and independent people had had their jealousy converted into trust by the advances of British friendship, and then their courage humbled by defeat, and their independence changed into subjection upon the impulse and action of British treachery. Then acutely indeed would the bad eminence of our power have been felt by every honest mind.

Now, for ourselves, we find no evidence in the official documents before us to hasten us into these deprecatory conclusions, or to tempt us to throw the cold water of cant upon a victory of which we yet hope to find the justice equalling the splendour. All parties in this country are supposed to write in a sort of comparative ignorance of the position of affairs in the East, and to claim allowance, upon that ground, for any errors into which they may be led. Yet many of them choose the position of attack upon the new acquisition we have made, while we are content to take the most natural and national one of believing our country to be right, until some tangible evidence declares her to be wrong. We will not believe—until the melancholy faith shall be forced upon us—that the curse of English treachery has sullied the battle of Meeanee. We cannot but notice that the official papers all urge emphatically the failure of their engagements on the part of the Ameers—their violent breaches of trust while in the very act of treaty—their hollow pretensions of kindly feeling at a time when they were most insidiously working to betray—in a word, their desperate abandonment of all the principles which are held binding upon men and nations, and which give them the security of truth. It is thus that the Governor-General pithily indicates the circumstances which led to conflict and to victory.

The Ameers having signed a new treaty proposed to them on the 14th of February, attacked on the following day with a large force the residence of the British Commissioner. In this treacherous attack they were repulsed. On the 17th Major-General Sir Charles Napier gained a decisive victory over

their whole army, and on the 20th the British troops occupied the city of Hyderabad. Six of the Ameers delivered their swords to the British General upon the field of battle. All their guns, ammunition, and treasure were taken, together with their camp. The Beloochees lost 5000 men. Thus has victory placed at the disposal of the British Government the country on both banks of the Indus from Sukkur to the Sea, with the exception of such portions thereof as may belong to Meer Ali Morad of Khyrpore, and to any other of the Ameers who may have remained faithful to his engagements. The Governor-General cannot forgive a treacherous attack upon a representative of the British Government nor can he forgive hostile aggression prepared by those who were in the act of signing a treaty. It will be the first object of the Governor-General to use the power victory has placed in his hands in the manner most conducive to the freedom of trade, and to the prosperity of the people of Scinde, so long misgoverned.

The passages we have printed in italics are worthy of remarking. They declare the treachery of the enemy in such terms as to justify the results of the war; they prove that there is no disposition to despoil of their territory those allies who have remained faithful, and they evidence a desire to govern our new subjects in the improving spirit of peace. Nor must we omit to mention that abolition of slavery was instant upon the acquisition of British power. Lest, however, the proclamation of the Governor-General should not be relied upon for its facts let us take the letter of that gallant old soldier Sir Charles Napier. In this he says:—

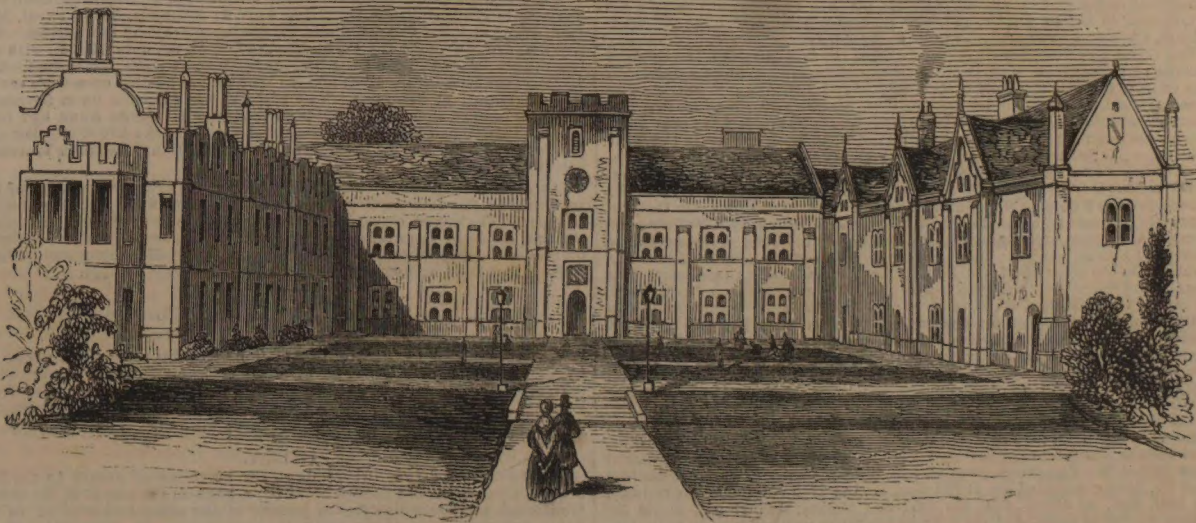
On the 14th inst. the whole body of the Ameers assembled, in full durbur, formally affixed their seals to the draught treaty. On leaving the durbur, Major Outram and his companions were in great peril, a plot had been laid to murder them all. They were saved by the guards of the Ameers; but the next day (the 15th) the residence of Major Outram was attacked by 8,000 of the Ameers' troops, headed by one or more of the Ameers. The report of this nefarious transaction I have the honour to enclose. I heard of it at Hala, at which place the fearless and distinguished Major Outram joined me with his brave companions in the stern and extraordinary defence of his residence against so overwhelming a force, accompanied by six pieces of cannon. On the 16th I marched to Muttaree: having there ascertained that the Ameers were in position at Meeanee (ten miles' distance) to the number of 22,000 men, and well knowing that a delay for reinforcements would both strengthen their confidence and add to their number, already seven times that which I commanded, I resolved to attack them, and we marched at 4 A.M.

By this it is clear that the Ameers were traitors and aggressors both. But there is another passage in General Napier's report which is still more emphatic, and which, coming from one who, though a soldier, entertains political opinions the full reverse of those of the Governor-General, is entitled to much weight. It is couched as follows:—

Finally, I trust for receiving indulgence from one who so well knows how difficult my position has been for the last five months up to the present moment, and how hard I have laboured, and how much I have risked, to avoid a recourse to arms. This sanguinary engagement has been forced upon me by the duplicity of the Ameers, though I must say that until the attack upon the Residency neither Major Outram nor myself believed they were resolved to fight, and against which duplicity I never ceased to warn them. My conscience acquits me of the blood which has been shed. The tyrannical and deceitful Ameers brought on the battle, the fierce tribes of Beloochee robbers were resolved that it should be so, and bravely did they execute their resolution.

This is plain speaking, and no conjectural reasoning can overturn its force. It says, in so many round words, that we made a hard struggle for peace, but that war was forced upon us, and that the blood shed in the conflict should lie upon the conscience of the conquered. We hope it may be thus, and that British valour may not have been disgraced by the wickedness of the quarrel in which it was enlisted.

We have elsewhere printed the whole of Sir Charles Napier's soldierly report. It is written in a plain, homely, and sometimes incorrect style, but in its force, eloquence, and spirit, it is beautiful throughout. It is one of the most stirring blood-warming discourses of battle we ever perused. It is full of the glow of heroism, the true fire of glory, the nobility of manhood, and the soldier's generosity of heart. It should make all Englishmen proud of English brotherhood—of their fellowship with their countrymen—of their full participation in their fame. It is truly a splendid, and genuine, and feeling history of a mighty deed of prowess and renown.



DULWICH COLLEGE.—ELECTION OF WARDEN.

The recent death of the master of this munificent foundation occasioned a vacancy in its wardenship; for, according to the statutes of the founder, Edward Alleyn, on the situation of the master being void, the warden at once succeeds to it; but the appointment to the office of warden is vested in the body—namely, the master and fellows and assistants—viz., churchwardens of the parishes of St. Saviour's, St. Botolph (Bishopsgate), and St. Luke's—in all eleven persons. Having assembled at the college at eleven o'clock, accompanied by the five poor brethren, the five poor sisters, and the 12 poor scholars, they proceeded to the chapel of the college with the candidates (twelve in number), all bearing the surname of Allen or Alleyn, to hear prayers; after which the electors proceeded to ballot for two out of the list to be the candidates—as by one of the statutes only two persons are eligible to be the candidates; when, upon the ballot papers being examined, the choice was found to have fallen on Mr. Charles Allen, of Brasenose College, Oxford, and Mr. J. G. N. Alleyn, of No. 23, Dover-street, who had come over from Dresden for the purpose of offering himself. As soon as this announcement was made, two exceedingly long strips of paper were taken, and in

the corner of one of them was written "God's Gift; they were then rolled up and tied round with a piece of tape. The prize and the blank were then put into a tin box and the lid put on, which was then handed to the master, who, standing at the altar, held the box in his right hand, which he elevated above his head, and then shook it three times, turning it over at each of the shakes. The votes of the electors having made Mr. Charles Allen the senior candidate, he was called to the altar, and the lid being removed, the box was placed on the crown of his head, from which he drew one of the rolls of paper. The box was then handed to the other candidate, who, as a matter of course, took the other paper. The two candidates were then desired to unfold their papers, but so great was the anxiety of each, that it was with great difficulty they unrolled the papers. At length the second candidate's (Mr. J. Grey Newton Alleyn) paper exhibited the "God's Gift" written on it, when he was declared to be duly elected warden of the college, and which terminated the proceedings. The new warden is not above twenty-three years of age. The present head of the college is a son of the Bishop of Ely.

The choice of fellows is very similar to that of the warden. The

late organist, the Rev. Ozias Linley, brother of the first Mrs. Brinsley Sheridan, drew the successful lot against the celebrated bass singer, Mr. Bartleman. The poor brethren and sisters, and the poor scholars, also draw lots in the same manner, the candidates having been sent by the churchwardens of their respective parishes. The entire establishment consists of a master, warden, four fellows, six poor brethren, six poor sisters, all of whom must be unmarried; and twelve poor scholars, to be maintained, educated, and ruled, according to the regulations of the statutes.

For this purpose, in the reign of James I., Edward Alleyn, Esq., bought the manor of Dulwich, and other estates in the neighbourhood, and elsewhere. In addition to this handsome provision he erected almshouses in the parishes of St. Botolph, Bishopsgate; St. Saviour, Southwark; and St. Giles, without Cripplegate, for thirty poor men and women, ten from each parish, to be elected by the respective churchwardens and vestry, and to be admitted afterwards into the college (named "God's gift"), as vacancies occurred, particularly that of the parties being single and elderly. One of the brethren, two of the sisters, and three of the scholars, just specified as belonging to the college, are chosen out of the parish of Camberwell, in which the college is situated, the remaining nine brethren and sisters and nine scholars coming from the three parishes above mentioned; besides thirty out-members.

By the terms of the statutes it is necessary that the master and warden should be unmarried, and have the founder's name of Alleyn, or Allen. It is also required that three of the fellows should be clergymen, the fourth being the organist; and that they should all be single persons. Although the words of the foundation-deed are express on the latter point, the first master and warden were married men; and the founder himself showed his approval of the state of matrimony by marrying secondly, after the death of his first wife Joan, who lies buried in the college chapel. Some of the masters have endeavoured to procure leave to marry, but without success, owing to the clear terms of the will.

Edward Alleyn, or Allen, the founder of the college, was a distinguished actor in the reigns of Elizabeth and James I., and was born in 1566, at the sign of the Rye, in Lombard-street. He rose to great eminence as an actor before he was 26 years of age; and a letter of Rede, the dramatic poet, is extant, in which he relates a convivial meeting of Alleyn, Jonson, and Shakspeare, where Jonson charged his brother poet with having been indebted to his observation of Alleyn for the famous directions about acting in "Hamlet." Alleyn eventually became a fortunate theatrical proprietor, and built the Fortune playhouse; but his most profitable speculation was a bear-garden at Bankside. With the wealth thus amassed he commenced building the college in 1614; it is stated, from a design by Inigo Jones, and finished it in 1617; but few of the old buildings remain. The site begins at the five-mile stone (i. e. five miles south of London). The gates, bearing the founder's arms, crest, and motto, "God's gift," lead into the outer court or green. The college stands in the inner court; the west wing being the most ancient. The front is divided in the centre by a porch, over which is the treasury chamber. Eastward of the porch is the chapel, with a noble copy of Raffaele's "Transfiguration," by his pupil, Jolie Romano. Westward of the porch is the college hall, where the elections are held, and the scholars dine; and adjoining it is the dining-room of the master, warden, and fellows. Above are the library and the apartments of the master and warden. The original revenues of the college amounted only to £800, but have since greatly increased.

Dulwich College has, from its foundation, been celebrated for its collection of pictures. Alleyn left it some; and Cartwright, the comedian, many more. But the most valuable accession has been from the bequest of the late Sir Francis Bourgeois, in 1810. For this noble collection a new gallery has been built, to which the public are admitted gratuitously, by tickets, which may be easily obtained. The most curious relic in the library is the original diary of the founder, from 1617 to 1622, which has, we believe, been recently printed.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.—Paris, May 9th, 1843.—(From our own Correspondent.)—The fall of the Spanish Ministry has created a great sensation in our diplomatic world, and couriers have been sent to every court in Europe. The French Government, I am inclined to believe, are far from being satisfied; they were strongly opposed to General Rodil, but they are more so to M. Cortina; Rodil was so far favourable to their views that from being one of the chiefs of the Ayacucho party (so called from having taken an active part in the American revolution), he was obnoxious to the nation, and his presence tended greatly to prevent the permanent tranquillity of Spain. It cannot be denied that the French Government are active partisans of Christina, and the only chance for her restoration is to keep the country in a state of continual disaffection and agitation. M. Cortina is a man of character and talent, an enemy to military despotism, and, should he succeed in forming a stable government, there is little doubt that he will render the most eminent services to his country. But in the eyes of our Gallic friends M. Cortina has one great fault; he is a strong partisan for an intimate alliance with England. M. Cortina is also a friend of Espartaco, although he blames many of his acts; it is, therefore, easy to imagine that M. Cortina is obnoxious to the French, and intrigues of all descriptions will be set on foot to prevent him from forming a majority. It is a curious fact that no people in the world take less interest in politics than the Spanish, and there is not a nation more a prey to political intrigues—the work chiefly of strangers! The Spaniards are strongly attached to their religion and their sovereign—of politics they know nothing, and care, if possible, less. I am most confidentially informed that soon after the formation of the new Ministry a partial insurrection will be attempted in the northern provinces. It will not succeed; the people are determined to remain neutral, and take no active part for any party—either C. Arist, Christino, Ayacucho, Espartaco, or Republican.

The Chamber of Deputies has been, during the last few days, the scene of much angry discussion and scandalous exposure, arising from a debate on the validity of the election of certain ministerial deputies; it was proved most satisfactorily that, during the elections, several high functionaries conducted themselves in a most blameable manner, and the members were unanimously declared not to have been duly returned. In the Chamber of Peers the committee has declared itself in favour of a project for the formation of a council of state; it will, however, meet with much opposition in the lower house.

The accounts from Algiers continue most unsatisfactory. Private letters received to the 30th give a deplorable account of an expedition into the province of Constantine, under the orders of General Baraguay d'Hilliers; the French lost a great many men; the official despatch, I believe, acknowledges about 150 *hors de combat*. The news from Bona is also favourable to the Arabs. On the other hand the Duke d'Aumale has made a most victorious *razzia*, and succeeded in capturing a certain number of sheep and camels. It is truly deplorable, I may say barbarous, for an enlightened nation to wage war against unarmed peasants, to rob them of their cattle and burn their harvests—and why? because they have no taste for French civilization! they prefer Abdel Kader to General Bugeaud! I may be mistaken, but I am strongly of opinion that the French will never be able to colonize Algiers; they will spend much money, shed torrents of blood, but never rule over the Arabians.

Several of our fancy manufactures have had a brisk demand, but in general trade is bad. The iron-masters have taken on numerous hands, and several new furnaces have been erected: this is owing to the projected new railways. The prices given for rails are very high. Messrs. Schneider and Co. have contracted for 11,600 tons, for the Dijon and Chalons railway, at 348*s.* 50*c.*, or about £14, the ton; and Messrs. Bonnet and Merle for 45,000 chairs, at about £11 15*s.* There are many new railways in agitation, but many years will elapse before they are carried into execution: our French friends prefer discussion to action. The public are no strong partisans of railroads: the numerous disasters have indisposed them; besides, they now find that should they unfortunately meet with an accident, they have no chance of obtaining redress! This was most clearly shown in the terrible affair of the 8th of May last year. The unfortunate cripples applied to the court to award them damages against the directors of the railroad: they were not only refused, but they were condemned to pay all the expenses; they appealed, and the judge, although they declared that there was an *excess of speed*, refused awarding damages, and condemned the victims to pay the expenses of the appeal!

On Sunday we had again some horse racing on the Champ de Mars; the Prince of Coburg and Duke of Nemours were present. The first run was a "Trial Stake," walked over the course by Spark, the property of Mr. Ammont; the second for 2000 francs, 4 year old and above, was won by Nautilus, the property of Count Cambis; the third, "The Spring Prize," for 3500 francs, 3 year old, was won by Madlle. Amanda, the property of Count Cambis; the fourth, for hacks, was won by Yorick, the property of Count Grefalke; the last, the Cadran Prize, for 3000 francs, 4 year old, was walked over the course by Annette, the property of Mr. A. de Rothschild.

The King and all the Royal Family have left the Tuileries for Neuilly. Lord Cowley has hired for the season the beautiful chateau of Folie St. James at Neuilly—formerly inhabited by M. Thiers—indeed all the *haut ton* are leaving Paris. This is not to be wondered at, for the environs of Paris offer

a most beautiful sight; the majestic trees which line the roads are in full leaf—the fruit trees are covered with blossom—the corn is most promising—the vine looks healthy—from all appearance we shall have a rich harvest.

The Princess Clementine and her illustrious husband, Prince Auguste of Saxe-Coburg, leave us next week for Lisbon. They will be accompanied by the reigning Duke of Saxe-Coburg, the father of Prince Auguste; Prince Leopold, a lady of honour, and two aides-de-camp.

The 5th of May being the anniversary of the death of Napoleon, a funeral service was performed at the Invalides, and the usual offering of flowers to the statue on the Place Vendôme. Amongst other events which attracted public attention were two neat sentry-boxes, given by a military officer to place near the statue, and destined to replace the worn-out ones which now disgrace that beautiful column.

Letters from Frankfort-sur-Maine give us certain that the Rothschilds are contracting many heavy pecuniary engagements, and that several of the family intend holding a conference in Frankfort the latter end of the month. They have already forwarded 600,000 florins for the reparation of the fortresses of Ulm and Rastadt. It is also reported that Mr. Charles de Rothschild will quit Naples, and take up his permanent residence in Frankfort, and that he will be succeeded in Naples by his eldest son, Mr. Meyer de Rothschild.

Our lyric theatres are making great preparations for a brilliant summer campaign. Amongst other novelties promised; are, a one act opera, the music by M. de Flotow, a most talented composer—the libretto by M. de Saint Georges, and a two act opera by M. Roldieu; there is also an opera spoken of, the music by M. Thomas, the poem by Planard. Rossini will reach Paris on Monday next. Tamburini is in Strasburg, where he intends giving a concert. Although you have already announced the death of the celebrated Maître de Chapelle Lanner, the rival of Strauss, the following additional information will be found interesting. "Lanner, who died on the 15th of April, at Dobling near Vienna, was buried on the 16th. Upwards of 20,000 persons, and more than 400 equipages, accompanied the funeral, having at its head a band of music directed by Strauss." Lanner, the son of a glover, was born in Vienna in 1800, and played for the last time in public on the 22nd of March 1843. It is worthy of remark the wonderful progress that music is making with the mass of the people; at the funeral of Beethoven, in 1827, there were not 2000 persons present—at that of Haydn in 1807 there were not 500, and it is notorious that not a soul followed the immortal Mozart.

Five new operas are in repetition at Rome: "Paolo e Virginia," by Aspia; "Il Toletto," by Cappola; "Gismonda da Mendrisco," by Paoli; "Osti e non Osti," by G. E. Roland; and "Pirati," by Aspia. The three act opera "La Fedanzata Corsa," the music by Pacini, has met with a most brilliant success at the theatre San Carlo at Naples.

The monument erected to the memory of the late Duke of Orleans, on the spot where he died, is nearly finished. It is a modest and well-executed piece of architecture, in the Grecian style. It is intended that a funeral service be performed in it on each anniversary of the death of that truly lamented prince.

Comets are now being observed in all directions. We dream of nothing but comets. You will soon have comet bonnets. Indeed, I am confidently informed that our celebrated astronomer, M. Arago, intends patenting an economical comet candle. I am not yet sure whether he will call into requisition the uncourteous comet which he lately declared was observed in its passage by one of his pupils on the night of the 3rd to the 4th of the present month.

A serious revolt broke out on the 1st at the Military School of St. Cyr; eight scholars were arrested and sent to the prison of Paris. An order from the governor restricting the too frequent promenades in Paris was the cause for this juvenile insurrection.

The following most dreadful occurrence, the result of a foolish wager, occurred at Lunville on Thursday last. Three young men, cousins, members of respectable families, laid a wager that they would eat a salad of pigs' bristles, seasoned with oil and vinegar, the one who refused was to forfeit 100*fr.*; all partook of the fatal dish, and three hours afterwards all died poisoned.

A Dutch painter has discovered, in the small village of Aubert, near Valenciennes, in the parish church, a picture of Christ by Vandyck, which he estimates as worth £1500. The picture is nearly ten feet high and six feet six inches in width.

The *Semaphore de Marseilles* gives the following account of an event at sea, and which does much honour to the captain and crew of the French brig *Furet*. "The 3rd of April, four p. m., the *Furet*, cruising near the heights of the Canaries, observed a vessel—or rather the carcass of a vessel, having neither mast, norprit, nor rudder. On the deck were eight men reduced to skeletons covered over with a sail, the sea beating constantly over them. At the sight of the *Furet* the unfortunate fellows cried out in a feeble emaciated voice 'for God's sake save us.' Notwithstanding the sea was running high, and several of the crew were laid up in their hammocks with the yellow fever, the humane Captain Coulin put out the boats and saved them. It appears that the vessel is the *Thunder*, from Portland, with a cargo of timber for the island of Madeira. A violent tempest arose on the 16th of February, and carried away the boats, the kitchen, part of the provisions, and split the masts; leaving the vessel a mere hulk, and leaking in all directions. In this state they remained for 46 days. Fortunately the head of the vessel offered a place of refuge; here flocked the crew, and there remained with the water two feet deep. When relieved they had been two days without food, and were devoured with a burning thirst. A courageous sailor plunged into the hold and brought up two barrels of salt beef, which they eat raw, and the only drink they got was rain water. To take any rest they laid themselves on planks, tying their hands to the broken mast, fearful of being drifted away by the sea. Thus they lived for 46 days. They were most kindly treated by the captain of the *Furet*, who clothed them, and gave them every kind of nourishment proper in their emaciated condition; they were afterwards landed at Gibraltar."

It is said that the Duke and Duchess of Nemours intend visiting London next month.

The Havre theatre is about to be rebuilt, after a drawing made by M. Charpentier; it is to be finished in three months.

P. S.—M. Cortina having refused to form a ministry, that important task has been offered to M. Olazaga, ambassador to Louis Philippe. M. Cortina and M. Olazaga are of the same political opinion.

A monument is to be erected to the memory of Cherubini in Paris; the city has made a present of the ground.

The ex-Régent of Spain, Christina, intends visiting the eastern departments of France.

THE MINISTERIAL CRISIS IN SPAIN.—The *Madrid Gazette* of the 4th announces that Senor Cortina has been unable to form a Cabinet, and Senor Olazaga was then charged with the task.

The amended paragraph of the Peers' address passed.

WEST INDIES.—The *Avon*, royal mail steam-ship, arrived at Falmouth on Tuesday morning; from St. Thomas, April 9; Bermuda, 20th; Fayal, May 1st. There appears to be nothing of special interest by this arrival. The *Avon* was in contact on the 4th of May, in lat. 43. 30. long. 17. 13., with the brig *Eliza*, of and from Swansea, for St. Jago de Cuba, in ballast. The steamer was disabled for eight hours. The brig sunk; the crew were saved, and are landed at Falmouth. The admiral was expected up at Bermuda. There appears to be nothing new from Campeachy. Santa Anna had been very ill. There had been repeated shocks of earthquake felt at Guadaloupe, on the 3rd of April and on the 5th, but no serious injury had been sustained thereby.

JAMAICA.—Large subscriptions have been made towards the relief of the sufferers by the late earthquake. Some slight shocks had been felt at Jamaica. The comet continues to leave us in nearly an easterly direction, which is apparent from its diminution in brightness as well as in the size of its luminous train, which, on Friday night, was only 35 degrees, and its light so faint that the smallest fixed stars were quite visible through it.

THE OVERLAND MAIL.

We were enabled to give in the whole of our impression last week, the telegraphic despatch in anticipation of the Overland Mail, which has since arrived, bringing with it the usual monthly express, with dates from Calcutta to the 23rd of March; Bombay, April 1; Canton, February 22; Alexandria, April 22; and Constantinople, April 19. The following extracts will be found interesting:—

INDIA.

The news from Scinde brings down the narrative of events to the 24th of March. A considerable number of facts have in the course of the month transpired, all redounding to the honour of the army and tending to enhance our estimation of the glory of the victory. An illustration of the determination with which the Beloochees fought is furnished by the conduct of a single tribe which came into the field 600 strong. Twelve of them, all severely wounded, alone survived the battle. On the 5th of March Lord Ellenborough, in directing the publication of the despatch, issued a notification intimating that Scinde, with the exception of the possessions of Meer Ali Moorad of Khyrpoor, would be annexed to the territories of the East India Company. The Ameers, seeing that their capital should at all events, not fall without a struggle. Major Outram remained in the Residency to the last. Shortly after the occupation of Hyderabad by our troops a search was made for treasure, and specie and jewels to the value of upwards of a million sterling were discovered and taken possession of. The diamond mounting of a single dagger is said to have cost £20,000. The Governor-General is desirous that this should become prize property, but certain difficulties having occurred in the way the matter has been referred to the Queen in Council. Captain Ennis and a Parsee merchant, on their way down the river, were attacked, robbed, and murdered. Their murderers have been executed. Captain Godfrey very narrowly escaped. General Napier, finding himself too weak to keep the field in open camp, entrenched himself at the residency by the river side, employing the 12th N. I. to garrison the city, four miles off. Three regiments, with artillery, were ordered from Sukkur about 180 miles higher up the river. The 21st N. I. left by boat on the 1st March, and reached camp without molestation. The 8th N. I., 3rd Bombay cavalry, and 1st troop of horse artillery, started

from Roree across the river from Sukkur, and commenced their march by Khyrpoor on the 3rd. A rumour of their having been compelled to fall back on Sukkur proves unfounded. Fresh troops were requested from Bombay, a supply of ammunition and reinforcement of artillerymen being ordered without a moment's delay. So unexpected was the occurrence of the conflict with the Ameers, that the army of reserve, with the other forces at Ferozepore, five weeks before 35,000 strong, had been dispersed. Her Majesty's 41st, which had just descended the Indus, embarked for Europe on the 22nd February, and her Majesty's 40th, till of late a Bombay regiment, though within a year of its return to England, was marched eastward to Meerut, instead of proceeding through Scinde to Bombay. On the 7th, the wounded officers and men left camp, and descending the river reached Bombay in safety by steam. Though many of their injuries were severe they were in excellent spirits; two or three only have died, and this from aversion to amputation. Many of them have in a great measure recovered; all of them have continued to do well. A notice has been published of a very gallant defence made at Vikkur by a small party of Sepoys, believed at one time to have been cut to pieces, but who in reality have made their way to Kurrachee. They defended themselves for three days against the enemy in a boat drifting up and down the river with the tide. The party formerly detailed as having been surrounded and attacked at Tatta made good their retreat with great gallantry and perseverance, and also arrived in safety at Kurrachee. After the despatch of the above particulars from Bombay news was received there that the Sukkur brigade, which was on its way to join Sir C. Napier at Hyderabad, was attacked near that place, on the 24th of March, by the Beloochees; that Sir Charles moved out to their rescue, and that a general action ensued, in which the British troops were victorious; but no particulars had been received at Kurrachee from Sir Charles. This is only the substance of the verbal report of a cosid to the authorities at that place.

OFFICIAL ACCOUNT OF THE ACTION.

From Major-General Sir C. J. Napier, K. C. B., commanding in Scinde and Beloochistan, to Lord Ellenborough, Governor-General, &c.

Meenace, six miles from Hyderabad, 18th February.

My lord.—The forces under my command have gained a decisive victory over the army of the Ameers of Upper and Lower Scinde. A detailed account of the various circumstances which led to this action does not belong to the limited space of a hasty despatch. I therefore begin with the transactions belonging to the battle. On the 14th inst. the whole body of the Ameers, assembled in full durbar, formally assented to the draft treaty. On leaving the durbar, Major Outram and his companions were in great peril—a plot had been laid to murder them all. They were saved by the guards of the Ameers; but the next day (the 15th) the residence of Major Outram was attacked by 8000 of the Ameers' troops, headed by one or more of the Ameers. The report of this nefarious transaction I have the honour to enclose. I heard of it at Hala, at which place the fearless and distinguished Major Outram joined me with his brave companions in the stern and extraordinary defence of his residence against so overwhelming a force, accompanied by six pieces of cannon. On the 16th I marched to Muttaree, having there ascertained that the Ameers were in position at Meenace (40 miles distant) to the number of 22,000 men, and well knowing that the delay for reinforcements would both strengthen their confidence and add to their numbers, already seven times that which I commanded, I resolved to attack them, and we marched at four a.m., on the morning of the 17th. At six o'clock the advanced guard discovered their camp; at nine o'clock we formed in order of battle, about 2800 men of all arms, and 12 pieces of artillery. We were now within range of the enemy's guns, and 15 pieces of artillery opened upon us, and were answered by our cannon. The enemy were very strongly posted—woods were on their flanks, which I did not think could be turned. The bed of the river was nearly straight, and about 1200 yards in length. Behind this and in both woods were the enemy posted. In front of their extreme right, and on the edge of the wood, was a village. Having made the best examination of their position which so short a time permitted, the artillery was posted on the right of the line, and some skirmishers of infantry with the Scinde irregular horse were sent in front to try and make the enemy show his force more distinctly: we then advanced from the right in echelon of battalions, refusing the left to save it from the fire of the village. The 9th Bengal Light Cavalry formed the reserve in rear of the left wing; and the Poona horse, together with the 2nd and 4th regiments of infantry, guarded the baggage. In this order of battle we advanced, and at a review, across a single line, swept by the cannon of the enemy. The artillery and her Majesty's 22nd Regiment in line formed the leading echelon, the 25th N. I. the second, the 12th N. I. the third, and the 1st Grenadier N. I. the fourth.

The enemy was 1000 yards from our line, which soon traversed the intervening space. Our fire of musketry opened at about 100 yards from the bank in reply to that of the enemy; and in a few minutes the engagement became general along the bank of the river, on which the combatants fought for about three hours or more with great fury, man to man. Then, my lord, was seen the superiority of our musket and bayonet over the sword and shield and matchlock. The brave Beloochees, first discharging their matchlocks and pistols, dashed over the bank with desperate resolution; but down went these bold and skilful swordsmen under the superior power of the musket and bayonet. At one time, my lord, the courage and the numbers of the enemy against the 22nd, the 25th, and the 12th regiments bore heavily in that part of the battle. There was no time to be lost, and I sent orders to the cavalry to force the right of the enemy's line. This order was very gallantly executed by the 9th Bengal cavalry and the Scinde horse; the details of which shall be hereafter stated to your lordship, for the struggle on our right was the most desperate of the day. It is not to be supposed that I could not go to the left. In this charge the 9th Light Cavalry took a hand, and several pieces of artillery, and the Scinde horse took the enemy's camp, from which a vast body of their cavalry slowly retired, fighting. Lieutenant Fitzgerald gallantly pursued them for two miles, and I understand, slew three of the enemy in single combat. The brilliant conduct of these two cavalry regiments decided, in my opinion, the crisis of the action, for from the moment the cavalry were seen in rear of their right flank the resistance of our opponents slackened; the 22nd Regiment forced the bank, the 25th and 12th did the same, the latter regiment capturing several guns, and the victory was decided. The artillery made among the dense masses of the enemy, and dismounted several of their guns. The whole of the enemy's artillery, ammunitions, standards, and camp, with considerable stores and some treasure, were taken.

Meer Roostum Khan, Meer Nusser Khan, and Meer Wullee Mahomed of Khyrpoor; Meer Nusser Khan, Meer Shadab Khan, and Meer Hoosein Khan, all of Hyderabad, came into my camp and surrendered their swords as prisoners of war. Their misfortunes are of their own creation, but, as they are great, I returned to them their swords. They await your lordship's orders. Their Highnesses have surrendered Hyderabad, and I shall occupy it to-morrow. It is not to be supposed that so hard-fought an engagement could be so decided without considerable loss on both sides. That of the British force is 256 men killed and wounded. The enemy is generally supposed to have lost 5,000. Major Teasdale, while animating his Sepoys, dashed on horseback over the bank amidst the enemy, and was instantly shot and sabred—dying like a glorious soldier! Major Jackson in like manner rushed forward, two brave havidars followed him, too far advanced before their men: they fell under the sabres of the enemy, but it is said not before they killed several. Captains Meade, Few, and Cookson, with Lieutenant Wood, all fell honourably, urging on the assault with unmitigated valour. Lieutenant-Colonel Fennecather was severely wounded, as was, with the high courage of a soldier, he led his regiment up the bank to the Fulkies. Major Wyllie, Captains Tucker and Conway, and Lieutenants Harding and Phayre, were all wounded while gallantly animating their men to sustain the shock of numbers. And now, my lord, I have to say, that British officers could not show greater gallantry in leading their men into action than did the Queen's and Company's officers on this day, and the troops well maintained their reputation. From the heads of departments and regiments I have received every assistance throughout the whole campaign and in the battle. The gallant charge of the Bengal cavalry was intrepidly led by Lieut. Col. Fattie, second in command, and I am sorry to say that the Scinde horse were not so successful in this able soldier, and he was severely wounded. The most active services long previous to, and during the combat. He won the enemy's camp, from which he drove a body of three or four thousand cavalry. Major Lloyd powerfully worked his artillery, ably seconded by Captains Whitte and Hutt. The destruction caused by their guns is said to have been immense. Major Waddington, of the engineers, has given me great assistance throughout the campaign, and in the action lent me his aid in carrying orders. Nor is the country less indebted to Major Reid for his gallantry at the head of the 12th N. I. The grenadiers, under Major Clibborn, owing to a misconception of orders, were not slightly engaged. Major Poole, of the 22nd, and Capt. Jackson of the 25th, who succeeded to the command of those regiments, proved themselves worthy of their dangerous posts. In the medical and commissariat departments both activity and zeal have been shown by Dr. Dalrymple and Captain Blenkins. Major Wyllie, Assistant Adjutant-General, was wounded while leading up the bank, and I have thereby lost for a time his valuable assistance; no man has been more serviceable to me in all our previous operations. The acting Assistant Quartermaster-General, Lieut. M'Murdo, of the 22nd Regiment, had his horse killed, and while on foot, leading some soldiers in a desperate dash down the enemy's side of the bank, he cut down a chieftain. He has greatly assisted me by his activity and zeal during the whole of our operations. Major Wyllie, of the 22nd, who received notice and protection Major M'Pherson, my aide-de-camp, an old soldier of the light division, from whom I have received that assistance which was expected from a veteran of the 43rd Regiment. To my acting aide-de-camp, Lieut. Pelly, I am much indebted in many ways, both during the campaign and in the action, and also to Lieutenant Thompson, 9th Cavalry, who acted as my orderly officer during the day, and Lieut. Young, husband, staff officer. Captain Henderson, of the Madras engineers, took a standard, and did good service with his band of sappers and miners, not only in this engagement, but through the campaign. His Lieutenants, Boleau and Outlaw, have also distinguished themselves.

Innumerable are the individual acts of intrepidity which took place between our soldiers and their opponents, too numerous for detail in this despatch, yet well meriting a record. I hope that your lordship will pardon the length of this letter, written in the midst of great interruption and at various times. Finally, I trust for receiving indulgence from one who so well knows how difficult my position has been for the last five months up to the present moment, and how hard I have laboured, and how much I have risked, to avoid a recourse to arms. This sanguinary engagement has been forced upon me by the duplicity of the Ameers, though I must say that, until the attack upon the Residency, neither Major Outram nor myself believed they were resolved to fight, and against which duplicity I never ceased to warn them. My conscience acquits me of the blood which has been shed. The tyrannical and deceitful Ameers brought on the battle, the fierce tribe of Beloochee robbers were resolved that it should be so, and bravely did they execute their resolution. I perceive that I have omitted to mention three officers well worthy of being named. To Captain Tate, of the Poona horse, I intrusted charge of the baggage on this day of battle, and I have no doubt that the steadiness and imposing attitude of the detachment under his command kept the enemy aloof, for I assure your lordship no person gave me greater anxiety than that of the baggage-guard. Lieutenant Beeson and Breton have throughout the whole campaign been of the greatest use, as Baggage Master and Provost-Marshal, and during the action Lieutenant Brennan was scarcely from my side a moment, except when conveying orders. Nor will I omit to mention the Moonshine Ali Akbar, an Arab, who exhibited the coolest courage, and attended me everywhere. I ought to have observed in the body of this despatch, that I had, the night before the action, detached Major Outram in the steamers with about two hundred Sepoys, to set fire to the wood in which we understood the enemy's left flank was posted. This was an operation of great difficulty and danger, but would have been most important to the result of the battle. However, the enemy had moved about eight miles to their right during the night, and Major Outram executed his task without difficulty at the hour appointed, viz. nine o'clock and from the field we observed the smoke of the burning wood arise. I am strongly inclined to think that this circumstance had some effect on the enemy. But it deprived me of the able services of Major Outram, Capt. Green, and Lieuts. Brown and Wells, together with 200 men, which I much regretted for their sakes, and for my own, for I much wanted the officers; and here I hope your lordship will pardon me for saying that the want of European officers in the native regiments at one period endangered the success of the action. The Sepoys are a brave and excellent soldier, but like all, he expects to be led on certain moments, and as he looks to his European officer, if he misses him, the greatest danger arises—three times I saw them retreat, evidently because the officers had fallen, and when another appeared and rallied them, they at once followed him boldly. This, my lord, accounts for the great number of European officers killed and wounded in proportion to the whole. I am sure that, in observing a defect in the formation of the Company's troops, the effect of which might have been so serious, I shall not be deemed presumptuous or impertinent. The defence of the Residency by Major Outram, and the small force with him, against such numbers of the enemy, was a brave and excellent soldier, but I have not named it as the foregoing despatch, because I propose to send your lordship a detailed account of it, as a brilliant example of defending a military post.—I have, &c.

(Signed)

C. J. NAPIER, Major-General,

Commanding in Scinde and Beloochistan.

The action was fought at Meenace, within eight of the towers of Hyderabad. C. J. N.

Lieut. Scott, of the 17th N. I., with 100 men, conveying the mail from Kurrachee to Hyderabad, was attacked, and repulsed, the enemy with severe loss.

CABUL.

The chief portion of our Cabul intelligence is derived from the Lahore news-writers—a dubious source of information, but the only one now open to us. Dost Mahomed had left the Sikh court under a guard of honour, about the 15th of February. His visit to Lahore had cost the Maharajah £15,000; the officers on the line of his march were directed to furnish him and his escort £70 a day to defray the charges of the journey. He expected stout opposition in the Khyber country, and was endeavouring to raise men in the Peshawar. Akbar Khan meanwhile had sent intimations that he would be ready to receive his father at Jumrood, on the confines of Peshawar, where the passes first open. He was to bring with him an escort of 10,000 or 12,000 infantry and 7000 cavalry; and it was stated that it was his intention to attack Peshawar. Mahomed Sooltan Khan, brother of Dost Mahomed, who, since his expulsion from Cabul in 1826, has never ceased to intrigue against the ex-Ameer, appears to be the source of these inauspicious rumours. The Sirdar may in reality find 15,000 men requisite to force the Khyber, when half that number of regular troops was considered by General Pollock too light an armament. Dost Mahomed is still within the Sikh territory, and might, until he joins his son, be detained as a hostage for the good conduct of the Cabulees; and the Sirdar, had he mischief in view, would take care not to disclose his intentions. Akbar Khan, meanwhile, has written to the Governor-General, proffering his aid, as is reported, to collect the Sepoys still scattered through the country, and have them safely forwarded to India; making general tenders of friendship; and deploring the death of the envoy as the most unhappy event in his life. No answer to this has been returned; but it is believed that so soon as Dost Mahomed reaches Cabul friendly arrangements will be entered on. Along with the letter to Lord Ellenborough came another to Captain Troup. This officer had left behind him a favourite horse of great beauty and utility, and of such value in the eyes of the Sirdar that he would not consent to part with it, though willing to grant anything else. He promised, however, that should Captain Troup ever return to India, his steed would be restored to him; and, accordingly, during his stay at Delhi, the animal arrived in safety. It was on this occasion the letters referred to were received: both were forwarded to the Governor-General, who returned unopened, but with permission for its perusal, that belonging to Captain Troup. The latest news is to the effect that the son of Meer Wazir is at present on the throne of Cabul, and that Mahomed Akbar has become so unpopular (it is not stated on what grounds) that two attempts have been made to murder him in the Lughman country, and that the people are only prevented from rising against him by the unexpected arrival of Dost Mahomed.

The *Delhi Gazette* has published a narrative of the events immediately preceding our advance upon Cabul, drawn up apparently on the authority of the officers who conducted the negotiations—Sir Richmond Shakspeare and Captains Lawrence and McKenzie; it is not so stated, but there are none others who could have supplied the information. From this it appears, that before the 1st of August arrangements were concluded with Akbar Khan for a free exchange of the prisoners on both sides, on condition of our retiring from the country; the Sirdar pledging himself to collect the Sepoys scattered throughout the mountains, and have them escorted through the passes, provided a couple of officers remained behind to take charge of them till our troops reached Peshawar. Sir Richmond Shakspeare, then military secretary to General Pollock, and Captain Troup, one of the prisoners, volunteered on this duty. The general declined having any written correspondence with the Sirdar, who accepted his verbal promise, he himself coming under a written obligation. All this was finally and satisfactorily settled by the beginning of August. Fresh instructions afterwards arrived, connected, as is understood, with peremptory orders from home, when negotiations were broken off, and preparations entered on for proceeding to Cabul.

It is stated in the last Lahore news-letter that Dost Mahomed has asked 12,000 Sikh troops to assist him in punishing the King of Bokhara for his former treachery; and that the Rajah Dhyani Singh has offered him 20,000, provided he will send Mahomed Akbar to Lahore as a hostage. This the Ameer declines, as he has at present no control over the movements of the Sirdar; but offers to leave any other members of his family. The Lahore Durbar will have Akbar, and Akbar only. The continuance of the negotiation, and the honours directed to be shown to Dost Mahomed till his arrival at Peshawar, dispel apprehensions of an attack on that province by the Afghans for the present.

As a territorial acquisition the importance of Scinde cannot be denied; the command of such a river and such a country, capable of becoming a second Bengal in wealth and productiveness, is beyond all question.

The Governor-General was at Agra, where he has taken up his residence in one of the palaces, and in which he held an investiture of the Order of the Bath. He has ordered the celebrated Somnath gates to be locked up there, and the officers employed in escorting them have been sent back to regimental duty.

The declaration of Sir Charles Napier, that the Indian army is too scantily officered, has attracted attention, and has become the subject of general comment.

The Ameer of Scinde, who are prisoners, will, it is said, be placed for safety in the fortress of Ahmednugger or Asseerhur.

Some disturbances still exist in the mountainous districts of Bundelkand, but they are not of very great importance. India is otherwise tranquil.

His lordship has begun a work which will connect his name with those of the many benefactors of India, and will be remembered when the memories of wars have passed away. The canal, so long projected by Captain Caithy, in the Doab, which had been all but abandoned, is to be commenced directly, and a sum of five lacs of rupees has been appropriated for the purpose. This will be a work worthy of the British government of India.

Lord Ellenborough is also determined to give a help to the cotton interests, and to extend the services and operations of the American cotton planters, as well as to erect the graining machines which as yet have lain idle. Nothing can be said of praise too great for such works as these, and for such intentions, if fairly carried out.

Major Sleeman has been appointed commissioner, vice Mr. S. Fraser; and there has been a clean sweep made of all other civil assistants and functionaries, and for the most part a new set appointed. The establishment for Central India has also been remodelled altogether, and Lord Ellenborough is going to have a "new police" throughout it, which is to be of a decidedly military character.

The virtual abolition of slavery in India by Mr. Bird, the Vice-President in Council, is an act which will well stand beside the abolition of Sutte. Comment on it is unnecessary, the act speaks for itself. As no one can lay claim to another as his slave, slavery is gone. In Ceylon, also, slavery has been abolished, though the enactments have not appeared.

The *Gazette* of Tuesday contains the whole of the notifications relative to the annexation of Scinde and the victory at Meeranee, but as they exhibit no features of novelty we do not consider it necessary, having already made the facts known, to give the details to the public.

AGRA, Friday, March 24, 1843.—The Governor-General having been commanded by the Queen to invest Major-Generals Sir George Pollock and Sir William Nott with the decorations of the highest class of the most honourable military order of the Bath, that ceremony was performed, on the 20th of March, in the palace of Agra, before all the troops composing the garrison; many native gentlemen were also present. The Generals were received, on alighting from the Governor-General's state carriage, by a deputation of the principal officers of Government. After the ceremony, which was accompanied by a flattering address from the Governor-General, Generals Pollock and Nott withdrew, under a military salute. In the evening the generals and all the officers of the garrison and station dined with the Governor-General in the Dewan Am, and the entertainment concluded with a ball in the Dewan Khass. The Ungoorie Bag, the Jasmin Boorj, the Sheesh Mehal, and the fountains were illuminated on the occasion.

CHINA.

The news from China extends to the 21st of February. The latest was brought to Bombay by an American schooner, the Zephyr, which is now plying as an opium trader from Bombay to China, and is remarkable for her swift sailing. The Emperor has ordered an investigation into the murders of the crews of the Ann and Nerubudda at Formosa. Nothing had been done in the arrangements of the commercial treaty, for the British Plenipotentiary appeared to be waiting for the treaty as ratified by her Majesty. The Chinese Commissioner and he were on good terms. Doubts are said to exist of the durability of any arrangement now entered into. The Chinese were busy in repairing all their forts and in strengthening their positions in the different places attacked last year. Trade was dull, but expected to revive speedily. At Canton some dissatisfaction still prevailed. The immature revolt at Manilla had been put down, and the rebels executed. It had for its object to declare the independence of the islands of the Spanish yoke.

The Hindostan arrived at Madras on the 15th of March, sixty hours after the mail had arrived at Bombay. This rapidity promises well for the steamers from Calcutta to Suez: her arrival at Calcutta took place on the 23rd, before the express from Bombay with the mail had reached that city. The Hindostan was obliged, on going up the Hoogly, to anchor at Mud-point from want of water.

Dwarkanauth Tagore has been excluded from his family caste, in consequence of his repeatedly eating with "the unclean Europeans."

The captain of the *Belvidere*, which ship was burned some months ago at Singapore, was tried at Bombay for taking goods out of the ship while in harbour. He was honourably acquitted.

In a postscript, our correspondent states that a steamer had arrived at Bombay from Kurrachee, which brought intelligence to the 28th of March, and mentioned that a fight of three days had taken place between Sir Charles Napier and the Ameer, in which the British were successful. There was great loss on both sides. Report said that the British General was slain, but this part of the report was not credited.

The Beloochees had thrown a chain across the Indus, which they intended to defend by fortifications on both sides. Her Majesty's ship Nimrod and two small steamers were about to force the Beloochees to retire and leave the river open.



MAP OF SCINDE.

SCINDE AND THE RIVER INDUS.

The annexation of Scinde to the British dominions (as officially detailed in the news just received by the Overland Mail in another part of our journal) must render this newly-acquired kingdom of great interest to our readers; whilst its position on the Indus is important in connexion with the published avowal of the Indian government to direct its energies to fostering trade on that hitherto neglected river. "The Indus," observes Captain Postans, in his well-timed pamphlet, just published, "is the great means by which commerce may be carried on from the port of Bombay to Scinde, Bhawalpore, the Punjab, and other extensive countries on its banks, or beyond them to all parts of Central Asia; countries, moreover, of unbounded fertility, promising, even in their present neglected state, a certain return trade; but capable, in process of time, were the demands only made, of producing, to an unlimited extent, many of those staple commodities which form the great return trade in our Indian commerce."

Before describing the subjects of the engravings, from sketches obligingly furnished by Captain Postans, it will be better to take a rapid review of the country of Scinde, a delta on the lower Indus (similar, though on a smaller scale, to that of Egypt), with a considerable extent of territory on either side. It extends north and south from the sea to the confines of the Bhawalpore territories at Subzulkote on the eastern, and meeting the Punjab territories on the western bank, its greatest extent, in round numbers, being about 500 miles. The principal port is in Kurrachee, having a communication with Bombay during nearly nine months in the year, from which it is distant about 800 miles, occupying four days' steaming, except during the monsoon, when the communication is closed. Kurrachee is a very accessible harbour, and when the improvements contemplated by government are carried out (a lighthouse, pier, &c.), it will afford every facility for vessels of all tonnage loading and unloading. Kurrachee communicates to the westward with a high road and well-frequented route to Kelat and Candahar; but the great importance of this post is its communication with the Indus, of which it may be said to be the key, having about the same relative position and value to that river that Alexandria has to the Nile, with only a land-carriage of about twenty-five miles (and even this may be obviated by opening an old canal), which it commands at all times.

"The capital of Scinde," says Captain Postans, "is Hyderabad, situated about 150 miles from Kurrachee, immediately on the river. Intermediately we have the once important mart and manufacturing city of Tattah; but its glory is departed, and it is highly improbable

it can ever be revived. It owed its principal importance to the production of its silk fabrics, particularly of that description called the loongie. But, rivalled in these by Mooltan and Bhawalpore, and no longer the only great port on the Indus, Tattah is of comparatively little moment as a place of trade or manufacture: it belongs to the British Government, however, and, in case of being used hereafter as an entrepôt, we could effectually protect the merchant. Its present distance from the river is about five miles, and opposite Tattah is the point of communication between Kurrachee and the Indus, where every facility is offered for shipping and landing goods. Hyderabad, the capital, has a population of about 50,000: it is noted for its manufactures of leather, which is far superior to any known in the East, and which is exported to the neighbouring countries. The great trading towns of Scinde, higher up the river, are, Sukkur (now Victoria on the Indus), Shikarpore, Khyrpore, Larkana, and Subzulkote. Of these the most important and influential has hitherto been Shikarpore; but it is highly probable the cession of Victoria on the Indus to the British Government will tend to move the trade to that place from Shikarpore, as we shall give it a protection which will be immediate and liberal. The two important trading points of the country of Scinde may thus be taken as at Kurrachee, its port, and Sukkur or Victoria at nearly its northern extremity, the latter being the point, moreover, of nearest communication to Afghanistan and Beloochistan, by the old route of the Bolan Pass; the distance is twenty days from Candahar, and this latter has been, from time immemorial, the great commercial road to Central Asia from the Lower Indus. Scinde is at present, comparatively, a thinly-populated country, its wants being few, owing to the hitherto extreme poverty of its people, consequent on a Government which has no parallel, even in the East, for avarice and despotism, its chief aim being to crush every spirit of enterprise in the merchant, devoting the whole of this wonderfully fine country to the selfish gratification of its rulers. But such portions of Scinde as are cultivated attest its amazing fertility, and prove that the produce may, with care, be increased to any extent, though at present the whole country is little more than a preserve for game. The staple articles for a return trade from Scinde may be considered as these:—Saltpetre, sulphur, alum, indigo, sugar, cotton, wool, leather, hemp, opium, and grains of every description. A very large proportion of its inhabitants are Hindoo traders, exceedingly energetic men, who will increase in number and in weight the longer we have a position in the country, and who only require our fostering policy, and the undeniable power which we now possess, to induce them to enlarge their mercantile transactions



HARBOUR OF BOMBAY.

to any extent. The Hindoo merchants of Scinde are, perhaps, as active and energetic, of that class, as are to be met with in any country."

We now proceed to a few of the minor characteristics of this interesting country, and especially of those which illustrate the habits of its river population.



TAKHT 'ROWAN.

This cut illustrates the common mode of conveyance used by the women of the East when accompanying their families on long journeys, which would be too fatiguing if undertaken in any other way. The seat in which the women are placed is called a Takht 'Rowan,

and consists of a large wooden frame or wicker pannier, fastened by strong ropes over the hump of the camel; a bed and pillows is placed within, on which the women sit or recline, while a servant leads the animal with a long rope attached to the peg, which passes



PULLAH FISHERMAN.

through his nostril. Sometimes poles are attached to the corners, which support a canopy of crimson cloth, which either shelters the travellers from the sun or screens them from the eyes of men. In Egypt when the families of the pilgrims accompany their husbands to Mecca, they always use this canopy; but in Scinde the commoner classes travel in it open, trusting to their veils for the necessary concealment.

The habit of travelling thus on camels is a very ancient one among the women of the East, for, in the 1st book of Moses, at the 61st verse of the 24th chapter, when Abraham's servant is described as going to Mesopotamia to fetch a wife for Isaac, we are told, "that Rebekah arose, and her damsels, and they rode upon the camels and followed the man." Women sometimes, it is true, sit on the common camel saddle, with a quilted coverlet thrown over it, and guide the animal, but in long journeys the Takht 'Rowan is preferred; and it is interesting so to trace habits in the East, precisely now seen to be the same as they were three thousand years ago, as described in the Bible history.

The inhabitants of Scinde who live on the banks of the Indus subsist solely on fish, of which the river is said to afford sixteen fine varieties; but of these the pullah, or sable fish, is considered the most delicious. Europeans are in the habit of boiling the pullah, in which case it is almost too rich to be agreeable to the palate; but the natives of Scinde broil it simply over a wood fire, which renders it excellent and wholesome. The poor people who gain their living as fishers live in grass huts on the banks of the Indus in great contentment, farming tracts of the river, looking to it as their means of subsistence, transit, and pleasure, and never so happy as when bathing in its waters, or floating on its bosom. The above cut represents a Scindian fisherman approaching the river bank, and bearing the net and vessel he uses in his vocation. This vessel is made of baked clay, capable of holding twenty gallons of water, and much flattened at the sides. The net is woven of large meshes, and fixed at the upper end of a bamboo twelve or thirteen feet long, with a fork-like termination. When the fisherman reaches the river, he places the vessel on the water, and throws himself on it in such a manner as to close the opening of the jar with the pit of his stomach; he then swims into mid-stream, holding his net in readiness, plunged vertically into the water. The fisher, thus floating on the stream, remains motionless until a fish is snared, when he closes the mouth of the net, takes carefully out the fish, stabs it with a knife carried in his girdle, drops it into the vessel, and commences anew. When the vessel is full enough, the fisher makes for the bank, disengages himself from his frail bark, utters a "Bismillah" (God be praised), and returns to his hut, contentedly, to broil his fish, and smoke a chillum with his family.

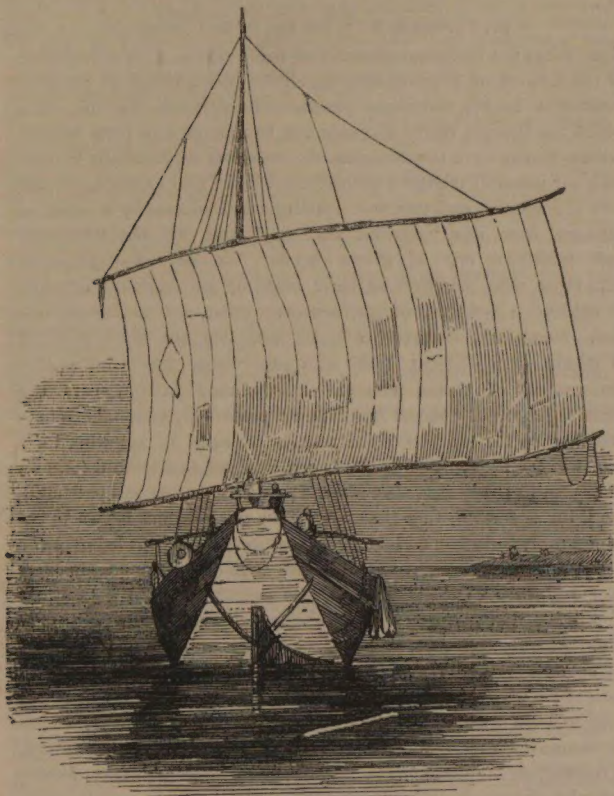
The women of Scinde are a strong, active, athletic race, who share equally with the men the labour and the toil of life. On the river Indus whole families live entirely in their boats, knowing no other home; and the wives and daughters of the fishermen, consequently, become as expert in the navigation of the river-craft as their husbands and fathers are, and are as frequently to be seen so engaged. The costume of these women is curious and not unpicturesque, although the materials are coarse and cleanliness unknown. The dress of the woman, as shown in the above cut, is that peculiar to Scinde, and consists of a *chola* or bodice, made of cotton of colours sewed together in horizontal stripes, which fastens behind, and is often ornamented with coarse embroidery and small pieces of looking-glass curiously let in; beneath this is a full petticoat of blue cotton, and over the head a handkerchief, which in some measure supplies the place of the *saree* worn by the women of India. The feet are usually decorated with silver toe-rings; and, from the extreme cheapness of small turquois in Scinde, women, even of the lowest ranks, have commonly nose and ear-rings decorated with them. The women of Scinde generally are considered handsome; but those who live entirely on the river and subsist on fish are a taller, stouter, and more masculine race than the women of the towns, whose principal occupations are to draw water and fulfil domestic and household duties.



SCINDIAN LETTER-CARRIER.

The above is a portrait of a *cosid*, the especial messenger or letter-carrier of Central Asia, who, useful at all times in effecting communication throughout countries in which there is no regular post-establishment, becomes incalculably so in times of war. He is a native of Candahar, who, with others of his class, was entrusted with the conveyance of letters between Cabul and the Indus, on matters of the utmost importance to the interests of the British Government, and the safety of its troops, during periods when the occupation of the Bolan Pass by the Beloochee tribes, with the country between Candahar and Quetta by Uktar Khan, the chief of the Allizhie and other powerful tribes of Affghans, rendered the plunder of the Dâk (Post) so common as to stop all regular communication. These messengers are all sturdy, strong-built men, trained to undergo extraordinary fatigue, and to subsist on the most simple and scanty food. Their garments are poor, travel-stained, and ragged, and a strong staff supports them on their way. The *cosid* travels onwards day and night towards his destination, heeding neither the heat of noon nor the dews of evening—over burning sands, through mountain passes, stemming the swollen torrents, and climbing the most difficult paths, he steadily performs his duty, snatching food as he may from his ragged wallet, and resting beneath a bush or rock to recruit the strength which permits him to make journeys of many days, compassing some sixty miles in the four-and-twenty hours. During times of rebellion and war these poor fellows are often robbed, and sometimes murdered, in the discharge of their dangerous duty; but, usually, their knowledge of the country enables them to escape well by unfrequented paths leading across the mountains. In the late campaign in Afghanistan one of these mes-

sengers succeeded in conveying safely to its destination a scrap of paper which he had concealed in the "taweed," or talisman, commonly worn round the neck. He had been seized by the enemy, wounded, and stripped of all his clothing, but the talisman failed to attract attention, and with this the faithful servant escaped, travelled on, and from it drew the object of his trust. During the occupation of Jellalabad by Sir R. Sale, and the besieged state of Ali Musjid, all means of communication depended on the cossids, who were, however, so closely watched, that many could only be trusted with quills filled with iodine, by means of which the safety of isolated parties was learned and secret answers given. In short, among all our many faithful servants in the East, none is more valuable than these cossids, of one of whom the above cut is a faithful representation.



BOAT UNDER SAIL.

The Indus boat is a heavy rude-looking craft, by no means so beautiful as those of Egypt seen on the Nile, and are never particularly safe. The Indus boats are formed of three pieces of country wood, two forming the sides and one the bottom, secured together by crooked spars, the stern and bow being strained upwards in the required angles, by the application of heat and force; they are without beams, and cannot stand gales of wind, short chopping seas, or rough weather. Storms of wind, particularly in the spring months, are very common on the Indus, and when coming against the stream are almost always fatal to the craft which may be caught in an unsheltered position. Wrecks are frequent consequently, and a boat in such cases goes down with a suddenness which forbids all hope of saving any portion of her cargo. The sand-banks which abound are also dangerous, while below the banks a strong deep current is frequently found flowing in a contrary direction to the main stream, and a boat caught in the gyrations so caused is generally wrecked; fortunately, however, the boatmen are tolerably certain of a favourable breeze when ascending the river from April to September, or in descending it from November to March.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.—We have received accounts of the riots at Dantzic, but we are glad to hear the effervescence is not connected with the spruce, which, considering how long it has been bottled up, might have led to a frightful explosion. Akbar Khan is still at loggerheads with the Imaum of Muscat. The former, it is said, will ultimately prevail. If this be true, Akbar kan and the Imaum can't. In Spain, matters are looking black, particularly liquorice. Espartero appeared at the windows of the palace; there was a crowd beneath, but he did not seem disposed to throw himself upon the people.—*Punch*.

THE BRITISH LEGION.—It is satisfactory to find that the poor fellows who composed this ill-requited, though brave body of men, are at length about to have justice done them. All the arrangements are nearly completed, and the claims are not only to be paid up in full, but the Government, to mark their high opinion of the bravery of the men, are to add to each man's share a liberal gratuity.

CHESS.

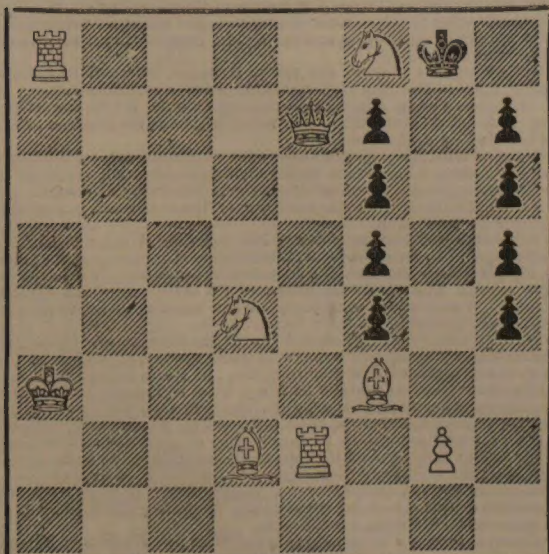
Solution to problem No. 23.

WHITE.	BLACK.
K to K Kt 6th	K moves
B to K B 6th	K moves
K to K R 7th	K moves
P one sq	K moves
B to K Kt 7th ch	K moves
P mates.	

PROBLEM, No. 24.

White to move, and mate with his Pawn in fourteen moves, without taking any of his adversary's pawns.

BLACK.



WHITE.

The solution in our next.



TRAINING HORSES.

Exercise, as it is commonly understood, is but a mild preparation for hard work. In the early stage of training many hours are daily taken up with walking only, and gentle canters not exceeding half-speed. It is begun early in the morning, continuing for many hours, and again in the afternoon. Every day the same routine is continued, until, by a nice calculation made upon the time the animal is to be called upon to meet his opponents, it is deemed necessary to be put into training, or hard work. Strength of constitution, goodness of legs and feet, must, or ought, to guide the trainer as to the quantity of work necessary to prepare the animal for the conflict. From walking exercise with a gentle canter to stretch their legs after water they progress into work; and for that purpose they usually get an old horse, who has pace enough left, as a schoolmaster to lead in the gallop. From him they learn

pace; and occasionally an opinion is formed of one or two in the string by getting a brush alongside of him. By exercise the animal is made handy. This education begins early; for at two year's old they begin their career on the turf; and, from the severity of treatment when once began, they seldom last beyond five or six years. The whole system of training is severe—keeping this maxim in view, that it is better to break down in training than in running. In fact, the conflict, or race, is nothing compared to the preparation necessary to give him a fair chance with his opponents. Some horses are by nature more able to bear hard work than others, and so long as they can feed and their legs will stand hard work, the more they have of it the better; without this they will lay on too much flesh: this must be got off, or they will want wind. Exercise is, therefore, the mild preparation to training.



GENERAL POST-OFFICE, ST. MARTINS-LE-GRAND.

In catering for the information of our readers, we are quite sure that authentic details, connected with the history and present mode of transacting the business of the Post-office, will prove not merely interesting but curiously valuable. An establishment of so much social, commercial, and even fiscal importance, cannot fail to be regarded by every admirer of the institutions of his native land with national pride; while its progress in usefulness since its first rude attempt to distribute "written ideas" to all parts of the world singularly shows the gradual growth of great principles. By this happy combination of social and fiscal advantages, the national resources have been from time to time improved; and while the Post-office has contributed its quota to the exigencies of the state, it has proved signally subsidiary in accelerating the march of mind, and hastening the ultimate benefits connected with, and arising out of, civilized freedom.

It is to the Parliament of 1643 that we are indebted for the origination of the Post-office. The first mention of "chief postmaster of England," however, occurs in 1581. But the business of such postmaster was confined to furnishing post-horses for the transmission of mails on special occasions. In 1632, the control of the office was confided to Thomas Witherings, who was instructed to settle certain rates of postage. The mails were conveyed on saddle-horses, and the post-masters on each road were required to furnish them at the rate of twopenny halfpenny per mile. In 1640, Witherings was superseded on account of abuses in the conduct of his offices, both of which were sequestered into the hands of Philip Burmache, with this proviso, that he should exercise the privilege "under the care and oversight of the King's principal secretary of state." During the civil war, considerable interruption took place in the regularity of the system; and consequently it was thought advisable to make some important alterations with the view of placing the entire establishment upon a footing of a still more systematic character. Mr. Edmond Prideaux, attorney-general to the Commonwealth, having devised a more extended and much more suitable plan, it was accepted; and he was chosen chairman of a committee, in 1642, for considering what rates should be set upon inland letters. Two years afterward he was appointed postmaster, by an ordinance of

both houses. Very valuable results were the fruit of this appointment. He not only established a regular conveyance of letters weekly, but he also extended the post by branches and cross rides to all parts of the nation. The services of local postmasters, or persons letting horses for hire for this purpose, were thus dispensed with, and seven thousand pounds per annum saved by the adoption of the improvement. There can be no doubt but that the emolument arising from working the Post-office was considerable, for we find that the Common-Council of the city of London attempted to erect another office in opposition to his; but a resolution of the House of Commons checked the civic functionaries, by declaring that "the office of postmaster is, and ought to be, in the sole power and disposal of Parliament." The office continued to be "farmed" until 1657, in which year a post-office was erected and its machinery controlled, by the Protector and his parliament. The preamble to this measure is curious; it ran in the following words:—"Whereas, it is expedient to establish one general post-office for the transmission and receipt of letters; for, besides being a benefit to commerce and convenient in conveying public despatches, it will be the best means of discovering and preventing many dangerous and wicked designs against the Commonwealth." No doubt can possibly be entertained, but that in those days the letters were frequently opened, and their contents subjected to strict scrutiny. Indeed, this power is still preserved by the Government, for we find it enacted (9th Anne, cap. 10, sec. 40.) that, "by a warrant from one of the principal Secretaries of State, letters may be detained and opened." Fortunately, in the present day, the exercise of this power is rarely ever requisite.

By an act passed on the 1st of June, 1711, we find a provision for the erection of one general letter-office in the City of London, another in Edinburgh, and a third in Dublin. Provision is also therein made for the appointment of a Postmaster-General, in whom power and patronage should be vested: power, with the sanction of the Lords of the Treasury, to make and alter rates of postage; and the privilege of appointing all the officers who might be required for the complete working of the establishment. Upon this model the present post-office is founded, and the rates then arranged continued,

with some few alterations, until the introduction of the uniform rate in 1839. The mail was first conveyed by stage coaches on the 2nd of August, 1785; and although the project was scouted by the comptrollers of the post-office as wild, visionary, and certain to produce ruinous consequences, in less than four years no less than £30,000 were added to the revenue by the adoption of the plan! Nothing, indeed, can be more gratifying than the fact, that in every case where reduction of postage has taken place, or additional facilities have been afforded, a proportionate increase of income has been realised, and that, too, in the face of the most decided opinions unhesitatingly avowed by the functionaries of the Post-office. The knowledge of this simple fact alone is sufficient to lead us to the conclusion that if an equal chance is given to the uniform rate now in existence, the time will eventually arrive when the revenue, which is quarterly improving, will reach its former gross amount even at the present reasonable rate of charge.

The magnificent building, situate in St. Martin's-le-grand, near to the junction of Cheapside and Newgate-street, is erected on the spot formerly occupied by the college and sanctuary of St. Martin.

It was built by Mr. Smirke, and opened for business on Wednesday, September, 23rd, 1829.

It is one of the largest public edifices now existing in the city of London. In its construction the order of the Grecian Ionic is followed. The principal front is four hundred feet in length, and has an imposing effect, arising from the continuity and simplicity of its elevation and the solidity and magnificence of its proportions. The portico, which projects, with two inter-columns at the sides, and is also intercessed, has an air of space and a depth of shadow that contribute materially to enhance its effect. Its breadth is seventy, and its depth twenty feet. Over the door is placed a clock, with an exterior and an interior face, and on each side are two strong reflecting lamps: it is also powerfully illuminated. In this front there are forty-four windows.

The back of the building, or east front, in Foster-lane, has about one hundred and eighty windows. This view of the edifice presents all the advantages arising from simplicity and due proportion.

The vestibule, or great hall occupies the centre, and is a thoroughfare for the public from one street to another. It is about eighty feet in length; in breadth sixty feet; and at the apex it is fifty-three feet high. It is supported by two lines of six columns, similar to those of the portico, and formed of Portland stone upon pedestals of granite.

The several rooms for receiving newspapers, inland, ship, and foreign letters, are on the north side of the vestibule. Further north are the inland letter-sorters' and letter-carriers' rooms. These offices extend the whole length of the front, from the portico to the north wing, and are tastefully finished. The latter is thirty-five feet high, and the fittings are well arranged for the despatch of the duty. The mails are received at the doorway in the Foster-lane front, and are taken into a room called the "tick-room," where the receipt of them is checked. In this part of the building is also a spacious office, which, by very recent alterations, has been made to open into the sorting-room, appropriated to the correspondence of the West Indies: also the comptroller's and mail-coach offices.

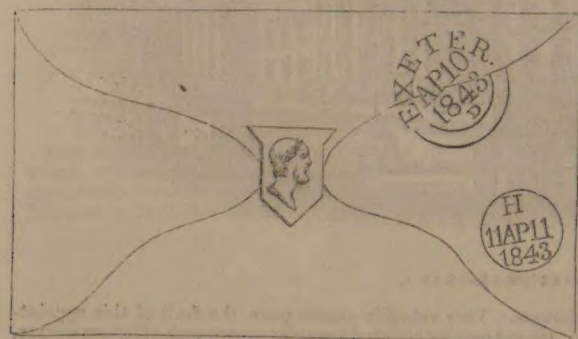
On the south side of the vestibule are the money-order, receiver-general, and accountant-general's offices; and at the eastern end of the money-order office is the London-district post-office, comprising the receiving, sorters', and carriers' rooms. Underneath the flooring of the vestibule is a tunnel, through which letters and papers are conveyed in small waggons to and from the inland to the district offices, invented by Mr. Barron.

On the first floor are the board-room, secretary's office, his clerk's office, and the solicitor's office; at the eastern end, on the north side is a staircase leading to the letter-bill, dead, miss-sent, and returned-letter offices. The whole of the floors are of American oak.

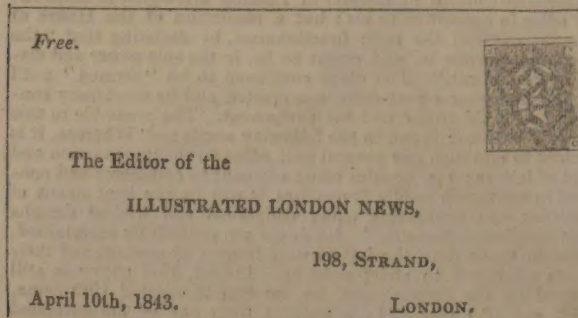
At the northern end are the inquiry-office, for letters not come to hand; the inland-office, for overcharges, and complaints relative to the delivery; and the newspaper-office, from which, alone, not less than three hundred and fifty thousand newspapers are despatched weekly! In the basement are rooms for the custody of the mail-bags, guards' rooms, an armoury, and servants' offices. Altogether the building is furnished with every requisite for such an office, including ingenious machinery for conveying coals from the cellars to every story in the building; two powerful steam-engines for the purposes of ventilation; and a simple but effective means of obtaining a copious supply of water in case of fire.

Relative to the mode by which the internal duty, both morning and evening, is conducted, we regret that we have not space fully to detail the mode adopted in each department. If want of room, however, prevents us from doing this, it is nevertheless our intention to furnish an accurate notice of the manner in which a letter is treated from its reception at the office in St. Martin's-le-Grand, to its despatch thence to its destination, either in town or country.

Suppose a letter was directed from our agent at Exeter for delivery at our office in London. It would, upon being put into the post-office there, receive the date-stamp of the deputy, which would prove when it was posted; thus:—



The under stamp with the single rim is the London date-stamp, and shows when the letter ought to be delivered. In all cases of complaint having reference to delay, either in transit or delivery, the cover should be enclosed, that the cause of the delay may be the more easily detected.



mail in which it is to be sent. This process continues until the last letter appears—generally about fifteen minutes before eight; sometimes it is five minutes later, according to the pressure of the duty. As the letters are received from the men who "collect" them from the parties who "assort" them, they are tied in bundles, and put into pigeon-holes representing the towns to which they are to be despatched. At a quarter to eight every man is at his post. All around the vast parallelogram of the inland office may be seen, each engaged, but not one interfering with the duty of the other, about three hundred men; clerks, letter-carriers, and messengers. There stands the mail-guard ready to put into his road-sack the bags as they are tied and sealed, precisely in the order the towns fall, as he takes his nightly journey. Simultaneously the bags are sealed, deposited, and tied; at once the whole of the ponderous sacks are shouldered by the attendants; and the messengers of hope, and fear, and joy, and love are on their way, by St. Paul's bell has tolled eight of the clock, to impart their varied tidings to the thousands of expectant mortals who form the letter-writing portion of the family of man.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, May 14.—Fourth Sunday after Easter.
MONDAY, 15.—Cuvier died.
TUESDAY, 16.—
WEDNESDAY, 17.—Talleyrand died, 1835.
THURSDAY, 18.—Bonaparte Emperor, 1804.
FRIDAY, 19.—St. Dunstan.
SATURDAY, 20.—Columbus died.

HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE MAY 13.

Morning.....10 minutes after 1 | Evening35 minutes after 1.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"Assad T. Kayat," next week.
"Subscriber from commencement."—34 per cent.
"J. V. B."—We prefer subjects of immediate interest.
"J. R."—The height, five feet eleven inches; weight we do not know.
"Subscriber to the Art-union."—The drawing was for the present year.
"Civis" complains that Dunstable Priory Church, engraved in our last, is in a state of dilapidation.
"J. W. B." Northampton.—The portrait of the late Duke of Sussex is from a large print, now scarce, the price about two guineas.
"Thomas Clark," Stornaway.—The biography is discontinued.
"Boscobel."—Thanks for the communication; but interest of the subject has been exhausted.
"T. H. J." Berner's-street, has our best thanks for his kind offer, of which we should avail ourselves, had we not the portrait ready.
"R. Q. P. Z."—The number and supplements will only be sold together.
"A Novice."—The Princess Royal would succeed.
"J. S. J."—We will attend to his request.
"G. R. D."—Both will appear.
"T. W. M."—The object of the exclusion is, probably, to insure equality, at least in the appearance of the company.
"G. E. C." Cambridge.—Apply to a M.P.
"Constant Reader."—Jager is synonymous with the French Chasseur, and is a personal attendant wearing a uniform.
"Bourgeois."—The letter should be addressed to the Hon. Mr. Ashley.
"A. B. C."—We cannot read his letter.
"Morus."—Write to J. T. Serle, Esq., Drury-lane Theatre. Thanks for his lines.
"E. D. J."—Thanks.
"S. J."—1. See a late number of the "Magazine of Science." 2. Certainly not. 3. Already answered.
"C. H." Reading.—The extract is capital, but would be out of place in a newspaper.
"D. C." and the "Secretary of the Glasgow Mechanics' Institution" have our best thanks.
"T. M." Long-acre.—The subject shall be noticed next week.
Ineligible: "B. B."; "W. "; "Cyril."
We invariably refuse unpaid letters.
"B. S."—James I.
Chess. "A Subscriber."—The solution to Problem No. 19 is quite correct, as we have repeatedly stated—
White. Black.
Bishop checks. Q P two squares.
Pawn takes pawn en passant—that is, the bishop's pawn is placed on the queen's 6th square, and the black pawn is removed from the board; thus leaving the king in check by the bishop.
"J. B. Boom," post-office, Folkestone, is open to play any third-rate player a match by correspondence; address as above.
"T. W. W." "A Subscriber," and "J. B. B."—In most of our impressions the diagram was correct. The rook on white Q B square is a white rook.
"B. R. C. S."—See an answer above.
"An Amateur."—The king cannot move to his queen 3rd square, in the position sent, nor to any other square which is attacked by one of his adversary's pieces.
"J. P." "Amateur," "S. S." and "Oxonian" have been received.
The problem sent by "W. T. P." April 20th, is not correct.
Will "Satie" send us the solution?
Chess correspondents shall be replied to next week.
* * We have to apologize to many of our readers for the delay which took place in the delivery of our last week's journal. Our anxiety to furnish the most complete and magnificent amount of illustration to the funeral of his Royal Highness the late Duke of Sussex could only have been fulfilled as it was by retarding considerably the period of our early publication. Our friends the news agents will, therefore, we are sure, be greatly excused by those subscribers who were inconvenienced by the delay.

BOOKS RECEIVED.—The "Hand-Book of Chemistry," by W. R. Baxter, LL.D.—The "Maid of the Hall," translated from the German, by J. Jackson.—The "Juryman's Legal Hand-Book," by T. H. Cornish, Esq.—"A Paper Lantern for Puseyites."—The "Marchioness," by Elizabeth Thornton.—"Guide to Hayling Island."—The "Baths of Germany," by Edwin Lee, Esq.—"History of our Own Times," vol. i.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, MAY 13, 1843.

It is with unfeigned pleasure that we have encountered the following paragraph in the columns of the daily press:—

ANTI-DUELLING ASSOCIATION.—An association has been just formed for the suppression of duelling. It consists of 326 members, including 21 nobles, 13 sons of noblemen, 16 members of parliament, 15 baronets, 30 admirals and generals, 44 captains R.N., 23 colonels and lieutenant-colonels, 17 majors, 26 captains in the army, 20 lieutenants R.N., and 24 barristers. They denounce duelling as sinful, irrational, and contrary to the laws of God and man. They also pledge themselves to discountenance by influence and example a practice which so greatly dishonours God. Captain Hope, R.N., and Mr. W. Dunmore, have become hon. secretaries to the association.

We may now hope that the disgraceful practice of duelling may, by the well-directed energies of good men, be speedily exploded, and become a dead letter upon our social code. When men, to whom honour is ever dearer than life—who would part with it for no worldly ambition—who have maintained it upon the field of battle and at the cannon's mouth—who have made it the inseparable accompaniment of their rank and station—who have won esteem for it upon the bench, in the senate, and at the bar—have the moral courage to proclaim their repugnance to the principles of the duel—to declare it criminal, unchristian, and in defiance of God, then society will hardly consent to be shamed into its practice by the denunciation of the mere bully, or to admit that there can be either moral or physical cowardice in resolutely refraining from the commission of an acknowledged crime. Here are untainted nobles, gallant officers of both services, revered civilians, men learned in the law (and we need not add how this will be strengthened by the enthusiastic co-operation of the clergy), bonded together in a firm phalanx of opposition to one of the most barbarous recourses of vengeance and anomalies of civilization, and most assuredly this will put it down. Happy

shall we be to regard the auspicious hour of its fall—to know that duelling is not only forbidden in practice but detested in spirit—and that society shall have become too chivalrously jealous of real honour to sacrifice one iota of its virtue to the sophistry and cruelty of that which is abominably false.

How seldom does it fall to the lot of the public journalist to address his readers in unqualified terms of congratulation on the aspect of public affairs, or be able to console the nation for its sacrifice of blood and treasure with a positive assurance that even the most glorious and decided conquests will bring peace and all its concomitant blessings in its train, for hardly does war begin

— to grow dull in the East
Ere it orders its wings and flies off to the West.

Hardly has the Governor-General of India received the submission of the Ameers of Scinde, and concluded his address of peaceful exultation to his victorious generals—hardly has the ink with which the Chinese treaty of peace and commerce has been written dried—hardly have the intrigues of incendiary diplomatists to disturb our peaceful relations abroad been foiled and exposed, ere our ears are assailed and our worst feelings excited, not by a shout of defiance from our "natural enemies," but by the barbarous and inhuman cry of CIVIL WAR. We have no sympathy with those who, whatever be their creed or colour, could attempt to achieve a political object, however great, by means of human bloodshed, however trifling; and we are often inclined to regard with distrust (for who can "stay the whirlwind") the motives of those who incessantly ring in our ears the delusive jargon of "moral force" and "peaceful agitation." Whatever may be the motives of the parties engaged in agitating for a repeal of the legislative union between England and Ireland (and we do not mean to say that they are not perfectly sincere and patriotic), one thing is certain, that the state of the question has begun to assume a most alarming and dangerous complexion, and it behoves the friends of peace and social order on both sides of the Channel to exert their influence to assuage the bitter feelings which the taunting asperities of party will inevitably excite in the course of its discussion. Already, we regret to say, have parties begun to calculate the chances which Ireland would have in a struggle with this country; and whilst some insane persons in Ireland have not hesitated to avow their reliance on America and France, we speak it to our shame that parties have been found in this country assuming to themselves the direction of public opinion who have been foolish and wicked enough to follow their example, and, in a spirit which is disgraceful to a Christian land, have retaliated with the feelings of a Cherokee, that "the two Protestant counties of Down and Antrim are fully adequate to the conquest of the rest of Ireland in a fair field." This is not the way in which this question should be treated. The time has gone past when these barbarous appeals to "cold iron" were regarded as a sufficient proof of the truth and justice of a cause. The Irish, though irritable, and, on national grounds, easily provoked, are shrewd and quick-witted, and no man can long continue to delude them—not even Mr. O'Connell—when once their better judgment is aroused. This, we repeat, therefore, is not the way to deal with the question. The absurdities of repeal will be better enforced by argument than at the point of the bayonet, and by the Government endeavouring to alleviate the just grievances which exist, and the perpetuation of which has caused greater dissatisfaction than the want of a resident Parliament. The Poor-law, we have no doubt, has made many converts to the repeal of the legislative union; but a repeal of that ill-judged and unwise measure would have great effect in allaying the ferment which now prevails. Mail-coach contracts and matters of that kind are, to be sure, but "straws upon the wind," but the sooner such indications are dispensed with, the better will it be for the peace and prosperity of the United Kingdom.

THE COURT AND HAUT TON.

His Royal Highness Prince Albert, the ladies and gentlemen of the royal suite, and the household, attended Divine Service, on Sunday morning, in the Chapel-royal, Buckingham Palace. The Rev. Mr. Vane, deputy-clerk of the closet in waiting, officiated, and preached the sermon, taking his text from Job, chap. xxviii. verse 28. Her Majesty the Queen Dowager and her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent attended Divine Service in the Chapel-royal, St. James's. The sermon was preached by the Rev. Cholmeley Dering, who took his text from Psalm cii. verse 26. The prayers were read by the Rev. Mr. Barham, and the lessons and communion-service by the Rev. Mr. Haden. Handel's funeral anthem, "His body is buried in peace"—Chorus, "But his name liveth evermore," was performed. Mr. Cooper presided at the organ.

On Monday her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent went to Buckingham Palace. The unfavourable state of the weather throughout the day prevented the Prince of Wales and the Princess Royal being taken their usual airings. A Cabinet Council was held at the Foreign office. The ministers present were—Sir Robert Peel, the Duke of Wellington, Lord Wharncliffe, the Duke of Buccleuch, Earl of Aberdeen, Sir James Graham, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Earl of Haddington, Earl of Ripon, Sir Henry Hardinge, and Sir Edward Knatchbull. Lord Fitzgerald, continuing ill, was unable to attend the council. The council sat two hours.

On Tuesday her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent and the Duchess of Gloucester arrived at Buckingham Palace in the afternoon. His Royal Highness Prince Albert left Buckingham Palace in a carriage and four at half-past eight o'clock in the morning for the terminus of the Great Western Railway, at Paddington. His Royal Highness and suite left by a special train for Slough, and went from that station to Windsor Castle. His Royal Highness inspected the alterations in progress, and afterwards returned by a special train to town, arriving at Buckingham Palace with his suite twenty minutes before two o'clock.

On Wednesday, her Majesty the Queen Dowager, attended by Countess Brownlow, Lady in Waiting, visited the Queen at Buckingham Palace. His Royal Highness Prince Albert, attended by Colonel Wyld, Equerry in Waiting, rode out on horseback. Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent visited her Majesty in the afternoon.

The Duke of Wellington gave a sumptuous entertainment, on Wednesday evening, at Apsley House, to a highly distinguished circle, including his Royal Highness Prince George of Cambridge. The party afterwards went to the Ancient Concert, of which performance the noble and gallant duke was director for the evening.

The Duke of Devonshire commenced his magnificent entertainments at the Burlington Villa, on Wednesday. The summer apartments, on the ground floor, only were thrown open. The refreshment tables were laid in the four principal rooms. The scene was enlivened by brass music and excellent performers. It was a very early party, as the majority of the visitors had arrived before three o'clock.

The Hon. William Cowper, second son of the Viscountess Palmerston, brother of Earl Cowper, and nephew of Lord Melbourne, will shortly be united to the daughter of Daniel Gurney, Esq., of North Runcion.

THE KING OF HANOVER.—The King's journey to London is decided on. We cannot exactly state the time when this will take place; but we can positively announce that part of the King's effects, for instance, the silver plate, had been sent to London by the monthly courier, and also that some of his Majesty's horses were on the way, and some of the servants are already gone to England. This and the preparations which have been ordered in London give reason to suppose that his Majesty means to make a long stay in the British capital. Nothing is yet known respecting the conduct of the affairs of government during his absence.

The *Courrier Français* announces that the Duke and Duchess of Nemours would shortly leave for England, on a visit to Queen Victoria and Prince Albert.

It is currently reported in the court circles that it is her Majesty's intention to give two state balls in the ensuing month at Buckingham Palace;

and, in addition to the levee on Wednesday next, to be held by Prince Albert, as *locum tenens* for the Queen, there are to be two levees more, at which her Majesty intends to be present.

DEATH OF LORD FITZGERALD AND VESSEY.—We regret to have the painful task of communicating to our readers the intelligence of the death of this distinguished nobleman, President of the Board of Control, which took place on Thursday morning at a quarter past two, at his residence in Belgrave-square. His lordship had for the last twelve months been in rather a debilitated condition from an enlargement of the liver, but which had been subdued, although the consequence was, of course, an exceedingly weakened state of his constitution. On Thursday and Friday week his lordship felt himself rather unwell, and on Saturday morning he was attacked by bilious fever, for which he was attended by Drs. Seymour and Teevan; but his lordship never rallied from the first attack of this latter disorder, during the progressive stages of which he had suffered very acute pain, occasioned by a large accumulation of mucus in his throat, and which eventually has been the occasion of the fatal termination. His lordship continued perfectly sensible till a few minutes before his decease, when he became exceedingly lethargic, drew three or four deep sighs, and breathed his last, surrounded by several of his private friends. The Rev. Mr. Fuller waited on his lordship to offer the consolations of religion, and the sacrament was administered to the noble sufferer by that reverend gentleman. His lordship throughout the performance of that solemn rite maintained all the serenity of a true Christian, for, although he experienced the utmost difficulty in articulation, yet he was perfectly sensible. On Thursday week the noble lord transacted business at his office. On the following morning his lordship, shortly after rising, was seized with a cold shivering, and Dr. Seymour was immediately sent for. That medical gentleman, after consulting with his noble patient, instantly ordered his lordship to his bed, as he considered the symptoms to be of an alarming character. His lordship, William Vessey Fitzgerald, was the eldest son of the Right Hon. James Fitzgerald, by the second daughter of the Rev. Henry Vessey, created, in 1826, a baroness in her own right; he succeeded his mother in 1832; and assumed the additional name of Vessey in 1815; was Privy Councillor, Lord Lieutenant and Custos Rotulorum of the county of Clare, and colonel of the Clare militia; was Chancellor of the Irish Exchequer; was Paymaster of the Forces from 1826 to 1828, and President of the Board of Trade from 1828 to 1830; he represented Clare in Parliament from 1820 to 1826; lost his seat in 1830; and in 1831. His lordship was created a baron of the United Kingdom in 1835; and, on the appointment of Lord Ellenborough to the Governor-Generalship of India, he was appointed to succeed his excellency as President of the Board of Control. His brother Henry, the Hon. and Rev. the Dean of Kilmore, succeeds to the titles and estates.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

IMPORTANT TO THE WINE TRADE.—The following circular has been received by a commercial house in Dublin:—"London, May 4. Sir,—We were present at an interview yesterday with Sir Robert Peel and Mr. Goulburn, from which we can inform you that Government intends to put a modified excise survey upon wines, with the view of enabling bottling houses to lay in stock, upon which the difference will be allowed in the event of any future reduction of duty. We are, truly, Sir, your most obedient servants, SANDERMAN, FINTER, AND CO."

FAILURE OF MESSRS. ACKERMANN AND CO.—The well-known firm of Ackermann and Co., printers and engravers, in the Strand, suspended payment on Friday week, when they issued the following circular to their creditors:—"96, Strand, May 5, 1843. It is our painful duty to inform you, that after eleven years' struggle to surmount the difficulties under which we took the business of our predecessor, and also on account of the heavy losses sustained by our foreign connexions, we find ourselves compelled to suspend our payments. We are now making up our books and valuing the stock, with a view, at the shortest possible period, to submit a statement of our affairs to the consideration of the creditors. We are your very obedient servants,—ACKERMANN AND CO.—P.S. We must trouble you to send us a statement of your account immediately."

THE LITERARY FUND SOCIETY.—This distinguished society held its anniversary festival at the Freemasons' hall on Wednesday last, the convivialities being presided over by his Grace the Duke of Sutherland. At the close of the evening the secretary announced that the total subscriptions received during the evening amounted to more than £800.

At the adjourned meeting of factory masters and members for the northern boroughs and counties held on Wednesday, upon the Factories' Bill, at the British Hotel, Cockspur-street, the hon. Stuart Wortley in the chair, the following resolutions were adopted:—"That the Factory Bill, now before the house of Commons, proposes for all children from 8 to 13 years of age enactments which have a direct tendency to prevent them obtaining employment." "That no valuable moral results can be obtained, or domestic duties properly performed, where the labour in factories extends to twelve hours daily exclusive of meals." "That the labour in factories be uniform, and reduced to within reasonable limits, so as to accomplish this desirable object."

ELECTION OF CHAMBERLAIN.—On Tuesday last the nomination of candidates for the office of Chamberlain of the City of London, vacant by the retirement of Sir J. Shaw, took place at a common hall held at Guildhall for that purpose, when Sir J. Pirie was proposed by Mr. Alderman Thompson, seconded by Mr. Deputy Stevens; and Sir W. Heygate was proposed by Alderman Sir Matthew Wood, seconded by Mr. Heath. The show of hands was declared to be in favour of Sir J. Pirie, and a poll was then demanded, which is to keep open for eight days. At the close of the poll on Wednesday the numbers were—for Heygate, 1343; Pirie, 1291; majority, 52. On Thursday Sir W. Heygate's majority exceeded 400.

THE RECTORY OF ST. SAVIOUR'S, SOUTHWARK.—In consequence of the death of the Rev. William Mann, for many years rector of St. Saviour's, Southwark, a vacancy has occurred, which it is expected will be very strongly contested. The living is the right of the parishioners, and the value is supposed to be £600 or £700 a year, including the perquisites. At present the Rev. S. Benson, the evening preacher at the church, is the only candidate in the field, but it is thought at least eight or ten others will be put in nomination.

IRELAND.

REPEAL MEETING AT THE CURRAGH OF KILDARE.—On Sunday last this meeting, which has been regarded with some anxiety, on account of the rumours that the Government intended to prevent it, was held on the vast plain called the Curragh of Kildare, so famous as the chief racing ground for the sporting gentry of the country. From an early hour the road from Dublin—the distance is twenty-five Irish miles—was lined with vehicles of various kinds, conveying parties to the meeting. From the different towns and villages adjacent to the Curragh great numbers of the peasantry flocked in. Various estimates have been made of the numbers assembled on this occasion, the most moderate of which is that they amounted to about seventy or eighty thousand persons. Tents were erected on the grass, at which tea, coffee, and other refreshments were sold to the peasantry, but there seemed to be no appearance of whisky. A strong force of military was stationed at the barracks of Newbridge, four miles from the place of meeting. Mr. O'Connell arrived on the ground shortly after two o'clock, and addressed the meeting in a speech which occupied nearly two hours in the delivery. After the usual resolutions had been adopted a vote of confidence was passed by acclamation to Mr. O'Connell, expressing their hope that he would never cease his exertions until he restored to Ireland her domestic Legislature.

On Monday there was an extremely crowded meeting at the Corn Exchange, for the same object. The stairs and passages, as well as the large room and gallery, were thronged, and the heat was quite oppressive. The sum of £100 was announced as the result of the meeting at the Curragh on the previous day. The meeting was occupied with the receipt of money from various parts of the country. Nearly £300 of "Repeal rent" had been handed in.

ACCIDENTS AND OFFENCES.

HORRORS OF THE LASH AT WOOLWICH.—On Wednesday morning, at a quarter before eight, another of these cruel and disgusting scenes took place, so revolting to human nature to behold, in the Royal Horse Artillery's Riding School. The troops were assembled in the Barrack Parade, under the command of Colonel Cleveland, Royal Artillery, to hear the proceedings of a Garrison Court-martial, upon gunner and driver Murphy, of the 7th battalion of the Royal Artillery, for robbing a comrade of £1 5s., of which crime he was found guilty, and sentenced to receive 150 lashes, or 1350 stripes. The troops were marched to the Riding School, where the usual preparations having been made, the culprit was secured to the triangle, and the revolting exhibition took place, the blood and flesh even flying into the faces of the torturers, and so disgusting was the scene that several of the soldiers fainted away at beholding the mangled appearance of a comrade's back.

EXTRAORDINARY SUICIDE BY A YOUNG FEMALE.—A most singular case of suicide has been committed by a respectable young female, named Isabella Jarvis, sixteen years of age, whose parents reside at No. 12, Bath-street, Tabernacle-square, Finsbury. It appears that the deceased was a remarkably handsome young woman, who had, about seven weeks ago, gone to reside in the family of Mr. Jones, a pastry-cook and confectioner, in Norton folgate. On Thursday week she went to a chymist's shop in the neighbourhood, and stated she had come from Mr. Jones for some arsenic to kill the rats, which was readily supplied to her, as Mr. Jones was in the habit of having that article for the purpose she alleged. On her return home she asked the apprentice how to mix it for killing rats. It was soon after ascertained that she had herself taken the poison. Medical assistance was immediately sent for, and the proper antidotes were administered, but, notwithstanding every effort, she sunk under the effects

of the poison, and died on Wednesday. At present there does not appear to be the slightest reason that could have induced her to destroy herself.

MELANCHOLY DEATH OF A MAGISTRATE.—On Sunday Mr. George Smith, a county magistrate, and previously to the formation of the Greenwich police-court one of the presiding magistrates at the petty sessions, committed suicide by hanging himself at his residence in Park-place, Greenwich. The unfortunate gentleman was highly esteemed, and was said to be possessed of great wealth. Various rumours are in circulation as to the cause, as he had only a short time before returned home after attending divine service at Greenwich church, leaving Mrs. Smith behind to partake of the sacrament. An inquest was held on the body on Tuesday; the facts as to the suicide having been proved, Dr. Southey, of Charlotte-street, deposed that he had attended deceased, and recommended his removal for a change of air. He was aware that he ought to be under restraint. He did not consider that restraint should be violent or coercive except to a very moderate extent. A surgeon of Greenwich also deposed to his state of mind. Circumstances induced him to think he should be placed under restraint, but he was so tractable and amiable that it would have been cruelty to have prevented him walking alone. His (deceased's) impression appeared to be that he had made an incorrect return for the Income-tax. He was one of the commissioners, and that one idea had induced insanity. The jury returned a verdict of "Temporary insanity."

LAW INTELLIGENCE.

COURT OF QUEEN'S BENCH.

On Monday George White, one of the Chartist, who was convicted at the late assizes for Warwickshire of having used seditious language, and attempting to provoke a breach of the peace, was brought up to receive judgment. Justice Patteson pronounced the sentence, which was, that the defendant be imprisoned in the Queen's Bench prison for eight calendar months.

In the Court of Exchequer, on Wednesday, Lord Abinger gave judgment in the celebrated gambling case, *Smith v. Bond*, in favour of the plaintiff—thus discharging the rule obtained by the defendant for a new trial.

WESTMINSTER GENERAL SESSIONS.

(Before Mr. Sergeant Adams and a bench of Magistrates.)

On Wednesday *Mary Rees*, a lady of independent fortune and highly respectable connexions, being related to some of the first families in Wales, and who resided near Cardiff, and was formerly a milliner, was indicted for feloniously stealing on the 20th of April last, a pair of white silk stockings, value 8s., the property of Nathaniel Hill, hosier, of Regent-street. The prisoner was dressed in mourning, and wore a handsome black lace veil, so that her features might not be recognised. The only witness for the prosecution was the shopman, who deposed to finding the stockings under the prisoner's shawl. Mr. Chambers for the prisoner, endeavoured to show that the articles were taken by mistake, and the jury, after four hour's consultation, returned a verdict of "Not Guilty." It was stated by one of the witnesses that Rees was not the lady's real name.

CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT.

The seventh session of the present mayoralty commenced on Monday morning last, before the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor, the Recorder, the Sheriffs, the Under-Sheriffs, Aldermen Farncomb and John Johnson, and other civic functionaries.

The calendar contains a list of 286 prisoners, of whom there stand charged with bigamy, 1; burglary, 8; uttering and having in possession counterfeit coin, 7; cutting and wounding, 4; embezzlement, 9; forgery and uttering forged instruments, 3; housebreaking and larceny, 9; larceny, 145; larceny in dwelling-houses, 16; larceny from the person, 40; larceny by servants, 18; stealing post-letters, 2; misdemeanor, 9; murder, 1; rape, 2; receiving stolen goods, &c., 6; robbery, 5; shooting with intent to murder, 1. The committals are—from London, 32; Middlesex, 202; Essex, 2; Kent, 26; and Surrey, 24. Total, 286.

The grand jury having been sworn, were charged by the Recorder. He said, Amongst the many grave charges which the calendar contained there was one in which the party was accused of misdemeanor in having attempted to commit a felony, but, upon a reference to the facts, as they appeared upon the depositions, this charge seemed to have been laid upon a misapprehension of the law, and that the case came within the provisions of the Act 1st and 2nd Victoria, which enacted that if any person should attempt to administer poison, or to shoot at another, or attempt to drown, the offence amounted to felony, and the party so offending should be liable to transportation for life, or for any period not less than fifteen years, or to imprisonment for any period not exceeding three years. In the present case the circumstances might probably excite some compassion. It appeared that the act was committed by a mother, who threw herself into the water, with the intent, most probably, of committing self-destruction, having first attached her child to her person, so that it must have perished also. Having been observed, however, they were rescued in a state of suspended animation, and with much difficulty restored. It was certainly a distressing case, but whatever might be the ultimate result when the facts came regularly before the court, he was bound to tell them that if they (the grand jury) believed that the intention of the prisoner was to destroy her child, she was guilty of the felony contemplated by the provisions of the act to which he had referred, and it would be their duty to return a true bill in such case.

ROBBERY AT GREENWICH FAIR.—On Tuesday *Robert Wilson*, aged 27 upholsterer, was placed at the bar, charged with stealing two gold pins and chain, value 16s., the property of Frederick Shemeld, from his person.—The prisoner was defended by Mr. Ballantine.—It appeared from the evidence that the prosecutor and some friends had been diverting themselves at Greenwich fair on Tuesday, the 18th April, and on coming out of a public-house, about half-past ten or eleven o'clock, the prisoner, who was with a number of other persons, struck at him, and in the scuffle managed to abstract the pins from his stock. Favouring by the crowd and confusion, the prisoner made his escape. The prosecutor and one of his friends subsequently saw the prisoner near a lamp-post in the High-street, but he again escaped. They then returned to town by a fly, and entering a public-house near the Elephant and Castle, they saw him there, and at once gave him into custody. The prosecutor and his friend swore positively to his identity.—The jury returned a verdict of "Guilty." Sentence—Transportation for ten years.

Several pickpocket and other cases of minor importance were disposed of during the day. None of them, however, possessed any feature of public interest.

On Wednesday Mr. Justice Colman took his seat upon the bench at ten o'clock.—*John William White*, 33, the captain of a schooner called the *Native*, and *Joseph Youngusband*, 40, the mate of the same vessel, were indicted for feloniously casting away and destroying her. The facts of this case have already appeared.—Both prisoners pleaded guilty to the offence of which they were accused.—Mr. Justice Colman took time to consider the sentence.

Several letter-carriers and clerks employed in the Post-office were convicted of stealing letters containing money. Sentence deferred.

POLICE.

GUILDHALL.—*John Green*, otherwise *Gresham*, was brought before Sir Peter Laurie, for final examination, charged with stealing a silver watch from the shop of Mrs. Rose, a jeweller, 96, Farringdon-street, a few days ago.—The prisoner asked Mrs. Rose to show him the watch which was hanging in the window. He then asked to see the watch hanging next to it, and while the assistant was reaching it the prisoner walked out of the shop with the first watch, saying he would call again and pay for it, and leaving his gloves on the counter. Mrs. Rose overtook him in Farringdon-street, and gave charge of him to a policeman. The prisoner walked out of the shop at a moderate pace, nor did he quicken it on getting into the street, so that his object seemed rather to be the fact. He had been in business; but with no better success, and his friends being unable to assist him any farther, he left his wife and children with the design of coming to town and committing suicide. Instead of doing this, however, he determined to get transported in a fictitious name. Upon hearing this his wife became too ill to write, but his daughter wrote a touching letter, on his vicissitudes and depression of mind.—Sir Peter Laurie now told Mrs. Rose that the act appeared rather to be the effect of aberration of mind than of crime, and asked what she wished him to do in the case?—Mrs. Rose said she wished to decline further proceedings.—Sir Peter Laurie admonished and discharged the prisoner, and assisted him to return to his afflicted family by railway that night.

LAMBETH-STREET.—SINGULAR CASE.—Mrs. Ann Flemming, a respectable-looking female, applied to Mr. Henry for his advice and assistance, under the following somewhat singular and extraordinary circumstances:—From the statement of the applicant, who it appears is connected with several highly respectable families, it appeared that some years ago, contrary to the wishes of her family, she married a linen-draper's assistant, named John Flemming, and by her property they were enabled to open a large establishment in the drapery and haberdashery way, in Sydney-place, Commercial-road-east; but, owing to the extravagance of her husband, they ultimately failed there, and the business, as well as the freehold which belonged to her, had been disposed of. Her husband after this had left her, and lived with a Miss Taylor, whom he had taken from her friends at Croydon. Some time after he had left her husband had obtained a situation as assistant to Mr. Howell, a linen-drapery, in Oxford-street, but had not been long in his place when he was taken into custody on a charge of plundering his employer to a considerable extent, and was committed to the Old Bailey on the charge. In June, 1811, he was tried at the Old Bailey, found guilty of the offence, and sentenced to six months' hard labour in the House of Correction, a sentence which, under the circumstances, was considered

exceedingly lenient. What became of him after this the applicant was unable to state with any accuracy, but in the month of November last both he and her sister had attended at Shoreditch workhouse and identified the body of a female that had been picked out of the Regent's canal a day or two before as hers, and wrote the name "Ann Flemming" on the lid of the shroud in which the body was placed. An inquest was subsequently held before Mr. Baker, the coroner, when the body was spoken of and treated as hers (applicant's), when a verdict of "Found drowned" was returned, and the body was left to be buried at the expense of the parish.—Mr. Henry: How long is it since these circumstances came to your knowledge?—Mrs. Flemming: About three months ago, sir.—Mr. Henry: How did you become acquainted with them?—Mrs. Flemming: My own sister acknowledged the fact to me. On my calling on her about three months ago she, on seeing me, seemed dreadfully agitated, and nearly fainted; and she then told me that she and my husband had been to Kingsland-road, and identified a body in the workhouse there as mine. She said it was very much decomposed from being in the water so long, and she was sure it was mine.—Mr. Henry: Then do you think they had made a mistake in supposing the body to have been yours?—Mrs. Flemming: Not at all, sir. It was a wilful mistake, to obtain possession of my property. The fact, your worship, is, that I am entitled to a freehold property in Ashford, in Kent, of the value of £800, at the death of an aged aunt; and I have found that my husband has obtained £400 or £500 upon it from Mr. Jemmett, the banker in that neighbourhood, upon a representation that I had been found drowned as before stated.—Mr. Henry: Well, what is your object in applying to me; what do you want me to do in the matter?—Mrs. Flemming: Since my husband has left me, sir, I have been employed in the establishment of Mr. Vyse, of Ludgate-hill, and earn a competence for my support; but that gentleman, as well as many friends of mine, have advised me to apply to your worship, as I reside in the parish of Whitechapel, in the hope that you will recommend the parish to take up my case, so that my husband may be prevented from squandering away my property under the false pretence of my being dead, and that I may obtain a proper settlement of my affairs.—Mr. Hughes, the relieving officer of Whitechapel, having entered the court upon other business, Mr. Henry explained to him the nature of the application, and said he thought it was a case in which the parish ought to interfere.—Mr. Hughes undertook to do what was necessary, and the applicant, after thanking Mr. Henry for his courtesy and kindness, left the court with him.

EPITOME OF NEWS.

The company formed in London to construct the Paris and Lyons Railway have accepted the line proposed by the official engineers. The bill for its formation will, therefore, be brought in by the Government next week.—A meeting of the heads of the Rothschild family will take place, it is said, during the present month, at Frankfort-on-the-Maine, there, as is supposed, to discuss affairs in a sort of financial congress.—Earl De Grey, it is said, will not be suffered to leave his government in Ireland, in consequence of the Repeal agitation.—The number of petitions against the Education clauses in the Factory Bill, up to April 28, was 6955, to which were affixed 976,792 signatures.—It is said in the City that the merchants who claim compensation for the opium delivered to Capt. Elliot have acceded to the terms proposed in the first instance by Government.—We understand there is a schism at the Junior United Service Club, between the Queen's and Company's officers, on the subject of balloting for new members, the one party opposing, *en masse*, candidates from the other.—The new light on the South Foreland was exhibited for the first time on Tuesday.—The committee of the French Chamber of Deputies have decided that two points of railway communication with England (by Havre and Calais) are sufficient for the present: Boulogne is consequently excluded.—Lord Abinger, we are happy to state, has sufficiently recovered from the late operation on the eye to enable his lordship to resume his seat in the Court of Exchequer.—Baron Maltshan, after making large purchases of valuable horses, has left London for Germany.—The anniversary dinner of the Merchant Seamen's Orphan Asylum was held at the London Tavern on Tuesday last, when the chair was taken by the Earl of Haddington. The children, to the number of above a hundred of both sexes, were introduced; and their healthy, cleanly, and comfortable appearance justly excited the admiration of all present.—A silly fellow, who appears to be an American, named John Redmond, was brought before the magistrates at Windsor, charged with having been found in the private grounds of the Home-park shortly after midnight of Sunday; but his object appearing to be harmless, he was sent about his business.—The regulations adopted by the Brighton Railway Company have given great dissatisfaction to the townspeople, who have declared that the alterations in the arrival and departure of the trains will be most injurious.—Doctor J. Hall, formerly government selecting officer of emigrants in Ireland, has been appointed by Sir James Graham surgeon to the convict establishment at Bermuda.—Mrs. Trollope, the celebrated authoress, is residing at Clifton; and Miss Mitford, we understand, is now sojourning in Bath.—Col. Orby Hunter, distinguished in the literary world by a translation of Byron's works into French, died on Thursday fortnight at Dieppe, where he had resided for many years past.—Lieutenant Fox, of H. M.'s 78th Highlanders, was killed at Poonah on the 13th of February, on returning from his mess-room. It appears that his horse had run away with him. His body was not discovered till the next morning. A funeral mass was performed on Friday at the Invalides with great solemnity, on the occasion of the 22nd anniversary of the death of Napoleon.—Notice has been given to the men employed both at Plymouth and the Penryn Iron Works that a further reduction of wages will take place in the course of a month.—The further opening of the Bristol and Exeter Railway to Beambridge took place on Monday last. The serious illness of Brunel, the engineer, prevented any exhibition of rejoicing, except such as the inhabitants of the district, who very naturally took a lively interest in the event, spontaneously offered.—The Maryport and Carlisle Railway was opened from Wigton to Carlisle on Wednesday week; the distance is 11½ miles, and the day being remarkably fine the ceremony drew together very great numbers of people from all the towns and villages along the line.—The Presbytery of Glasgow has split into two sections, each claiming to be the Presbytery of Glasgow.—On Tuesday last a young lady named Chester was held to bail at the Kensington Police-office for threatening to run her brother-in-law, a gentleman named Hepburne, through the body with a sword.—The House of Lords has been occupied for several days past in hearing evidence in the case of the Townshend peerage. The case closed on Wednesday last, but judgment has been deferred until Tuesday next.—The anniversary festival of the St. Ann's Society was held on Wednesday, at the London Tavern, when upwards of 160 gentlemen, who have long contributed to the support of the institution, assembled to celebrate the occasion. The chair was taken by Lord Morpeth, who was loudly cheered on entering the room, and conducted the business of the evening with his usual eloquence, and that abstinence from all personal or political allusions which has procured for his lordship the respect and esteem of his countrymen.—Rear-Admiral Wulff, one of the best translators of Shakspeare into Danish, died lately at Copenhagen.—We are informed that the personal property left by the Duke of Sussex is considerable, his life having been insured to very large amounts in several offices. The interest of the bulk of his property, it is said, has been settled on the Duchess of Inverness; the principal to revert, on the death of her grace, to the son and daughter of his Royal Highness by his former wife.—It was confidently stated, previous to the late examination for fellowships at Oriel College, that the candidates were required to give a distinct disclaimer of the principles of interpretation advocated by the Tract 90.—Mr. Brunel is daily improving in health, and eats heartily, but little hope at present is entertained of a speedy dislodgement of the coin.—The city of Leipzig has conferred the honour of the freedom of the city on the great composer, Dr. Mendelssohn Bartholdy, and has presented him the letters patent for that purpose in a beautiful silver gilt box.—An extraordinary general meeting of the fellows of the Society of Arts was held on Wednesday in the theatre of the institution, Dr. Roget, F.R.S., vice-president, in the chair. The Most Noble the Earl of Clarendon and three other gentlemen were elected fellows.—On the night of the 2nd ult., says a letter from Rome of the 24th, the little town of Groth-Amare, situate in the district of Ferrus, was visited by a shock of an earthquake. A piece of rock fell from the mountains on the Via Aprutina, and destroyed a number of houses. Several persons perished.—The laying down of the electric telegraph on the Great Western Railway, between Paddington and Slough, is now nearly completed.—For the second time Mr. C. Landseer has had his pictures selected by the holder of the £400 prize in the London Art-Union.



THE CONFIRMATION AT ST. ANDREWS, HOLBORN.

[The Bishop of London has been holding confirmations in several of the metropolitan churches—one of the more recent of which was given this present week, at St. Andrew's, Holborn, and is here represented by our artist.]

It is a holy sight!—fair spirits now

Put on new wings for Heaven's eternal throne;
And YOUTH, with pure resolve on heart and brow,
And soul hope-lighted, walks with God alone!
Responsible, and with fresh life imbued,
It takes the higher calling of the mind,

With self-reliance, faith, and fortitude,
Within its bounding bosom fair enshrined,
Confirm'd into the bright and blessed creed
Which sheds its halo round the Christian's shrine;
Exhorted on to holy thought and deed,
To win on earth from Heaven its crown divine;
And, while the storm-paths of the world are trod,
To keep the eye of hope and trust on God!



THE GIRAFFES, AND THEIR NUBIAN ATTENDANTS, AT THE SURREY ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS.

The above is a faithful and spirited representation of the curiosities whose recent arrival at the Surrey Gardens we noticed last week. They are now regularly domiciled in their new abode, and appear to enjoy the comparative freedom which their commodious dwelling affords. All are in the finest possible health and condition, capering about in the wildest glee, and indulging in the most amusing antics in their rough play with their keepers and with each other. Three of the giraffes are males, and the females indicate a probability that this extraordinary animal will ultimately become a completely domesticated inhabitant of our northern clime. The antelopes are of those extremely rare and beautiful species the *Addax* (Lichtenstein) and *Leucoryx* (Pallas). The *Addax*, of which these two specimens are the first that have been seen alive in England, was well known to the ancients under the name of *Strepisceros*, given to them by Pliny, but had been overlooked by all subsequent naturalists until

lately rediscovered by Rüppell and Ehrenberg. When full grown, it is a very large and powerful animal, measuring six or seven feet from the muzzle to the tip of the tail, and three feet in height over the shoulder, with horns of three feet in length measured along the curves. The horns are slender in proportion to their length, annulated to within five or six inches of the points, and have a most remarkable twist, describing two turns of a wide spiral. The colour is a greyish white, except the head and neck, which are of a deep reddish brown, with a transverse mark of pure white across the face. Its hoofs are broad to enable it to run swiftly in the deep sands of its native deserts.

The "*Abou-Harb*" derives the name of *Leucoryx* from its milk-white colour. It is as large as the *Addax*, but differs in the colour and markings, and in the form of the horns, which rise from the plane of the forehead in a single curve, forming a large segment of

a circle over the back. In this singular arrangement is inferred to have originated the fable of the unicorn, as the *Leucoryx* is frequently seen sculptured on the ancient monuments of Egypt, and being generally in profile, only one horn is represented, which gives it something like the appearance of the heraldic supporter of our royal arms. This is particularly conspicuous in the great pyramid at Memphis, where a group of them is figured, some being dragged along by cords as though they formed a part of a triumphant procession to some distant country. Both these species of antelopes live in the sandy deserts of Central Africa.

The two native attendants who accompany the animals seem to divide the attention of the visitors with their quadruped companions, and although perhaps not so extraordinary in their appearance, are more rarely seen here, as they belong to tribes that hardly ever wander away from their own homes on the shores of the White Nile. They are both portions of the great Barátra family, but differ exceedingly in their characteristics. One is a boy of the true Noubia race, from Kordofan in Upper Abyssinia. He has the short curled hair, thick lips, and intensely black complexion, which peculiarly characterise his people. The other is a noble fellow, of fine proportions, with the beautifully curved nose, perfectly intellectual countenance, and well-shaped head of the genuine Dongolawi. He is a native of Dar Dongola.

They are clothed in rich Oriental costume, and their strikingly graceful attitudes add a wild and picturesque effect to the whole group. They appear to be much attached to their charge, addressing the giraffes affectionately by their Arabic names, which are very fanciful and poetical, as "*Ou-Doom*," the strong horse; "*Sitt-el-Venat*," the beautiful young maiden; "*Karr-koor*," the great mountain; "*S'Abbeeb-Effendi*," the noble magistrate; &c.

ROWLAND HILL.

Having devoted a considerable portion of our space this week to a sketch of the Post-office, and a detail of the manner in which the multifarious duties of that establishment are performed, we think that the portrait of one who has done so much as Mr. Rowland Hill has to make that institution a truly national one, will form a most suitable accompaniment.

If the gratitude of a nation is due to those brave men who stand up in defence of our liberties and rights when foreign foes have attempted to trample upon them, and if such men are considered, by virtue of such services, worthy of civil distinction and national regard, how much more so is he worthy of both who, by his ingenuity, perseverance, and patriotism, has contributed to advance the sacred cause of civilization and freedom both at home and abroad! Eminently distinguished in this respect is the subject of our present sketch. It is to Rowland Hill that we are indebted for the incalculable benefits of the penny postage upon all inland correspondence; for the introduction of an uniform charge regulated not by distance but by weight, and for many other reductions in the rates of foreign and colonial postage.



PORTRAIT OF ROWLAND HILL.

Early in the year 1837 Mr. Hill published a pamphlet recommending that inland postage rates should be reduced to a uniform charge of one penny per half-ounce; and developing a plan by which, in his opinion, so great an improvement might be effected without causing eventually any very serious loss to the revenue. In the latter part of the same year the House of Commons appointed a committee to inquire into the subject. After a most laborious and thorough investigation, extending over the whole of the session of 1837-8, the said committee reported favourably of Mr. Hill's plan, and strongly recommended its partial adoption immediately, and its complete introduction, "as soon as the state of the public revenue would admit of the risking a large temporary reduction;" at the same time expressing an opinion "that the evidence established," among other facts, that "very injurious effects resulted from the old state of things to the commerce and industry of the country, and to the social habits and moral condition of the people."

In the succeeding session more than two thousand petitions from all parties were presented to the Legislature, praying for the immediate introduction of Mr. Hill's plan. More than three hundred of these petitions were from town councils and other public bodies; the greater part of them had but a single signature each, notwithstanding which the total number of signatures exceeded two hundred and sixty thousand.

Upon the 12th July, 1839, by a resolution of the House of Commons, it was considered expedient to reduce the postage to the uniform penny rate, to abolish the franking privilege, and strictly to regulate official franking. Subsequently a bill was founded upon this resolution, and shortly afterwards its provisions became the law of the land.

On the 14th of September, 1839, Mr. Hill was appointed to assist, under the direction of the Treasury Board, "in carrying into effect the penny postage." In January, 1840, the reduced rate was in operation; and before the close of the session in that year permanence was given to the above arrangements. Notwithstanding these circumstances, in September last Mr. Hill was discharged from his duties by the present Government, not because of any want of ability or zeal on his part, but because the minister of the crown was apprehensive that his continuance in office would bring about a collision between himself and the executive officers of the General Post-office! Of the injustice of this step it is but natural that Mr. Hill should complain. The substance of that complaint he has embodied in a petition to the House of Commons, which has been presented by the Right Hon. Francis Thornhill Baring, M.P., and to which, we understand, Sir Thomas Wilde has given notice that he shall call the attention of the house after the Easter holidays. To deprive a faithful public servant of a fair opportunity of earning the reward to which he is so justly entitled, in seeing his plan carried out without mutilation by those who are in office, and in reaping the satisfaction resulting from its success, is to commit an act of injustice to which we hope the present Government will be no party; and which, we are sure, if they are, the people of England will correct their error in language of remonstrance neither to be slighted nor mistaken.



EXETER HALL.



PORTRAIT OF RABEE.



PAN-TAH-SE-GAY.

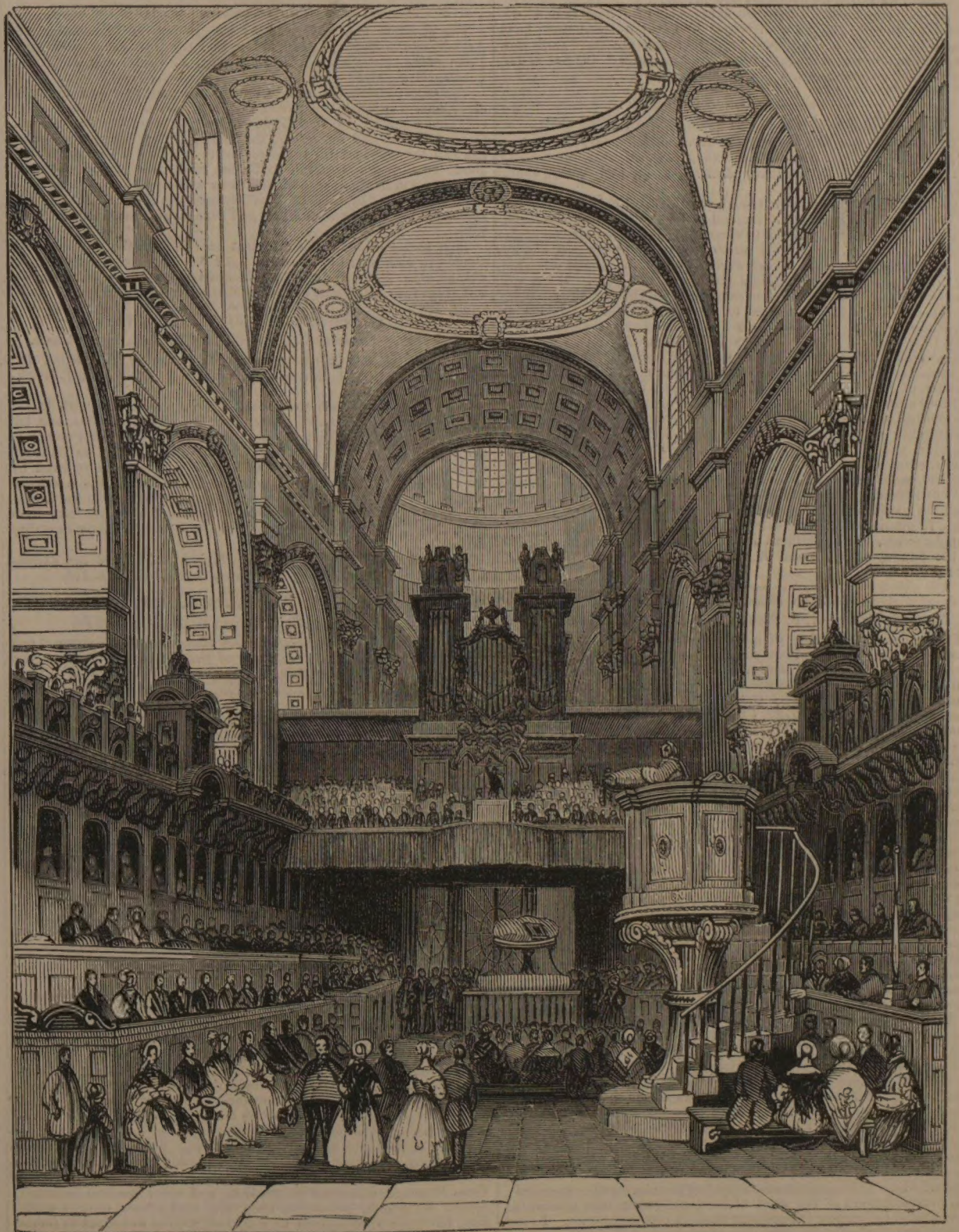


GYMNASIA AND PLAY-GROUND OF THE CHILDREN OF THE HOME AND COLONIAL INFANT SCHOOL SOCIETY, GRAY'S INN-LANE.

THE MAY MEETINGS.

If some men were asked to designate the glory of England they would point to her victorious armies, her vast and still accumulating wealth, and the extent of her growing dominions; but others—the real benefactors of her immense family—would rather direct attention to her schools, her charities, and her missions. These confer on her

a moral and enduring lustre, which neither martial prowess, nor mercantile enterprise, nor political empire, have ever been able to impart. It is desirable that causes so great and worthy in themselves, so salutary in their results, and so essential to the best interests of the nation, should receive the strongest support the British press can render them. We have therefore resolved on giving their proceedings a place in our columns, and to continue, as occasion may require, to



FESTIVAL OF THE SONS OF THE CLERGY—CHOIR OF ST. PAUL'S.

give their sacred labours the publicity which their paramount importance demands.

The May meetings may be considered in the light of a great Parliament of Benevolence sitting in committees for the amendment of the philanthropic constitution of the state, and the distribution of the million of money placed, for the most part by the poor of the land, at their disposal. These sittings are attended by such multitudes of persons from all parts of the country, that during their continuance the aspects of the streets of London lose much of their dingy metropolitan air, and assume the healthful jocund look of a provincial festival. They are held in various large chapels, the halls of the mission houses, Crosby Hall, the schools of various denominations, but chiefly in Exeter Hall, which was built a few years since expressly for their accommodation.

This year an unusual degree of excitement has prevailed amongst them in consequence of the danger to which the Protestant missions and schools in the Pacific are believed to be exposed by the Propagandism of Rome and the French occupancy of Tahiti, and also, by the injury which it is supposed will be done to the Sunday-schools, and to the schools of Dissenters generally, by the operation of the proposed Factories Education Bill. On these topics we feel that the zeal of our friends has in some degree outrun their ordinary discretion, and that on both points their very commendable but ill-considered fears are destined to speedy disappointment.

The first meeting deserving general attention, and one which, considering the deplorable ignorance of Irish peasantry, we commend to the charitable sympathies of our readers, was that of the

BAPTIST IRISH SOCIETY.

founded in 1813 by Ivimey, the historian of the Baptists, for "giving the people something better than political institutions"—to give them the power of reading the Bible by native teachers "who do not go with the aspect, and under the shield of coercive authority." It was held in Finsbury Chapel, April 25, D. W. Wire in the chair. The meeting was addressed by the Rev. Messrs. Davies, Mursell, Overbury, Webb, Mulheir, Pottinger, Trestrail, and Edwards. The Report stated that the society had continued such schools as the increasing care of the National Board of Education in Ireland had left it expedient for the committee to maintain, and that though the number had decreased, there was an increase of efficiency and usefulness. In twenty-four schools there were 2191 on the books, at the average age of ten years; more than 1720 were Roman Catholics, 697 had repeated considerable portions of the word of God, and most of them were situated where there were no other means of education within reach; the funds were reported to be in a depressed state, the liabilities exceeding £1500 over and above the ordinary expenditure of the society.

The speakers were enthusiastic in their testimony to the social and intellectual capacities of the poor people. "It is impossible," said Mr. Mursell, "to mingle with them without loving them. There is a vivacity about them that is perfectly enchanting. I feel that I am a great lump of lead when I get into the vicinity of Irishmen. No one can associate with them without catching something of their spirit, and wishing he resembled, more than he does, their hospitality. Their minds are preoccupied with ideas relating to Christianity and its duties, but all their ideas are distorted—their ideas are upside down. There is a confused conception of the importance of religion, but they have not the slightest idea of what is meant by it—of its principles, its spirit, its doctrines and precepts."

The business concluded by the expression of a hope that, if we would do good to Ireland with regard to her morals, we must have hearts to feel for her temporal interests; and not only raise our prayers for her mental emancipation, but stretch forth our hands for her political advancement.

BAPTIST MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

April 27, at Exeter-hall.—J. L. Phillips, Esq., in the chair.

The meeting was addressed by the Revs. J. Edwards, Dr. Alder, Dr. Liefchild, C. M. Birrell, J. Clarke, J. P. Mursell, C. Elven, Dr. Murch, Dr. Steane, Henry Kensall, Esq., and W. B. Gurney, Esq.

The Rev. J. Angus read the report, which stated that the progress of the society had been uninterrupted in its position and prospects, and was never more calculated to encourage and stimulate the exertions of its friends. The total number of missionaries sent out by the society has been 169. There were in India 79 schools, containing 2789 children, being 4 schools more than last year. 173 members had been added to the churches, now numbering 1350. Four missionaries and 8 teachers were to be employed, from Jamaica, at Fernando Po; and the committee had decided upon purchasing a vessel for the use of the mission in Western Africa. The West India missions were reported in a flourishing state; the total number of members was 33,658, being a clear increase of 1855, while the number of inquirers was 14,353. There were 6944 children in the mission schools, and 13,402 in the Sunday-schools, the expenses of the mission being now entirely borne by the native churches.

Reference was made to the missions at Trinidad, Hayti, South America, and Canada, all being in a flourishing condition. The total amount of the jubilee fund collected this year was reported as £32,500, and the receipts for the year at £21,198 3s. 10d. There had been added to the churches during the year 3569, making a total in all the churches of 36,622. There were 18,000 inquirers, 165 stations, 79 missionaries, 59 female missionaries, 137 day schools; 155 schoolmasters, 10,226 children in the day schools, and about 15,000 in the Sunday-schools; and 90,000 volumes of the Scriptures had been printed.

WESLEYAN MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

Monday, May 1.—J. P. Plumptre, Esq., M.P., in the chair.

The meeting, consisting of upwards of 3000 persons, was addressed by the Rev. Dr. Hannah, A. Campbell, Esq., M.P., Peter Jacobs, native Indian missionary, Rev. Thomas Mortimer, Rev. J. Smith of Greenock, Dr. Liefchild, and various other speakers. The gross income was stated to be £98,253 12s. 8d., being less than the preceding year by £3434 9s. 8d.; but as in that year there was a surplus of income over expenditure to the amount of £2900, a part of this yet remains towards the expenditure of 1843, amounting to £523 13s. 6d. The report detailed at great length the state and prospects of the society's missions throughout the world. It commenced, as usual with Ireland. Whilst various efforts had been made during the past year to impede their operations, it stated, that the agents of the society had steadily, and, to some extent successfully, prosecuted their important work. The 52 schools under the care of the society contained more than 4000 scholars, half of whom were now able to read the sacred Scriptures. The report went on to state, that on the Continent, at Winnenden, the mission was extending the influence of evangelical and experimental Christianity in the kingdom of Wurtemberg. The mission in France also presented an encouraging aspect. The prospects of the mission at Gibraltar were hopeful, but at Malta difficulties of a very discouraging character presented themselves. In Ceylon and India a large measure of success had attended the diligent and praiseworthy labours of the provisional committee formed in London, for the purpose of effecting the withdrawal of Government patronage from the idolatry of India. In Australia and Van Diemen's Land the missions were generally in a very prosperous state. In New Holland the want of additional labourers was greatly felt, and pressing applications made to the committee to send out four more missionaries. From other parts of Australia there were also calls for a greater number of missionaries.

In Vavan, Tahiti, and Feejee the missionaries continued to prosecute their arduous work with zeal and encouraging measure of success. The members had recently increased to 837, while there were upwards of 1100 adults and children in the schools. In Southern Africa the circumstances in which several of the missions had been placed formed the source of much solicitude and care. At the Cape of Good Hope additional missionaries had been imperatively needed; but, in consequence of the want of adequate funds, the committee were unable to increase the existing mission establishments. In the Albany and Caffraria districts the missions had been for several years steadily rising in importance. Upwards of 30,000 natives, of both sexes, were under instruction in Caffraria, and had the word of

life preached to them in the vernacular tongue. In Sierra Leone the mission was in a prosperous state. The establishment for the instruction of the sons of the native kings and chiefs and of the native traders, which had been opened recently at MacCarthy's Island, on the river Gambia, was calculated to exert an important influence on missionary operations in that part of Africa. The Gold Coast mission was also full of promise. The favourable commencement of the missions in Ashantee should be regarded as a most important event. After advertising to the destruction of Cape Haytian the report stated that the missionary cause in the West Indies was prosperous—in Jamaica, especially, a marked improvement appeared. In British North America, throughout the districts of Canada, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Newfoundland, the missionary labours were generally crowned with success, as also in the territories of the Hudson's Bay Company.

In the course of the meeting Pah-tah-se-gay, of whom we have given an original portrait, was introduced to the British public. He is a fine specimen of a North American Indian, and appeared to great advantage in the Chippewa costume. He entered into a very interesting description of his own conversion, and the unenlightened, barbarous condition of his fellow-countrymen previous to the introduction of Christianity amongst them. "He might say the tomahawk and the scalping-knife were now no longer used by them. They who had formerly used those weapons with barbarous cruelty had now adopted the Bible for their tomahawk, and the hymn-book for their scalping-knife."

HOME AND COLONIAL INFANT SCHOOL SOCIETY.

Monday, May 1.—Earl of Chichester in the chair.

The friends of this admirable institution assembled in their school-house in Gray's-inn-lane, and associated with the business of the day, an examination of the pupils and teachers, and an inspection of the domestic economy of the establishment. It was stated by the secretary that the society, which had only been established seven years, was instituted for the double purpose of training children to become teachers in schools, and for educating teachers themselves in the true principles of their "high vocation;" and that it is now the only one in England training *masters* and *mistresses* for infant schools. That about fifty teachers and three hundred children are at present under its charge, and that it proposes to extend its operations by the establishment or assistance of auxiliary institutions, and by the appointment of travelling inspectors to further the development of their principles in general schools. The Bishop of Norwich, in a short but able speech, commended the society to the patronage of the Government and the favour of the public, and very happily ridiculed the notion, that education apart from religion could be considered the education fitted for a moral being. An interesting Hindoo girl, named Rabea, was examined by the meeting, and exhibited great proficiency in various branches of knowledge. This child, on the completion of her education, is to be sent back to India, to become a teacher of religion and civilization to her benighted caste. At the conclusion of the meeting the children were admitted to the gymnasium and play-ground, and in a very few minutes gave the spectators good evidence that their physical education had not been neglected. The scene was altogether one of so cheering a character, that we have had it engraved as a model of good order and healthful recreation.

CHURCH MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

2nd May.—Exeter Hall.—Earl of Chichester in the chair.

The meeting was addressed by the Bishop of Winchester, the Archdeacon of Derby, Lord Sandon, and the Rev. Messrs. Hanson, Dean of St. Patrick's; J. J. Neitcheit, F. Close, and J. C. Colquhoun, Esq., M.P.

The report stated the income during the past year had exceeded £115,000; a sum unprecedented in the history of this or any other religious society. In New Zealand, Eastern and Western Africa, Greece, India, and elsewhere, the missions were encouraging, and the call for missionaries more urgent than ever. The society was about to turn its attention to China, towards a mission in which country an individual, who wished to be unknown, had presented the munificent sum of £6000. His Majesty the King of Prussia had presented the society with £100, and become an annual subscriber of £25.

This was decidedly the grandest meeting of the season. We never saw so intelligent a multitude, or one more resolutely bent on doing good. Britain—the land of Bibles and the "fane of Charity"—has great reason to exult in such noble-minded gatherings.

CHRISTIAN INSTRUCTION SOCIETY.

2nd May.—Finsbury Chapel.—F. Challis, Esq., in the Chair.

The meeting was addressed by the Rev. Messrs. J. Burnet, Dr. Liefchild, Dr. Cox, J. Smith, Dr. Campbell, T. Smith, and J. Blackburn.

The report stated that the society had in connection with it 107 associations, 14 missionaries, 2411 visitors, 59,946 families, and 123 stations for preaching and prayer. During the year 1421 copies of the Scriptures were distributed, 2636 children directed to Sabbath day schools, and 3635 cases of urgent distress were relieved by the agencies of the society. During the summer months five tents were employed for the public preaching of the Gospel in the neighbourhood round the City. It may be supposed that not less than 20,000 persons listened to the Gospel through this instrumentality alone.

The total receipts of the year were £1152 6s. 7d., and the expenditure £1192 5s. 6d., leaving the society in debt £39 18s. 11d.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY.

May 3rd.—Exeter-hall.—Lord Bexley in the chair.

The meeting was addressed by the Bishop of Winchester, Lord Morpeth, the Rev. Professor Sark, of the University of Bonn, the Dean of Salisbury, the Rev. A. Tidman, Mr. Jacobs, F. Close, Dr. Hannah, A. Anson, J. Milsom, Esq., the Earl of Chichester, and Dr. Steinkopf.

The report stated that, during the year, 727,830 Bibles and Testaments had issued from the depository at home, and 254,230 from the *deposits* abroad, making together 982,060; and that the total issues since the commencement of the society in 1804 was 15,020,994; while the receipts for the year, from all sources, was stated to be £92,476 2s. 8d.

The number of languages and dialects in which this sacred institution now print and circulate the Scriptures is 137! No stronger fact can be urged on the public on behalf of the claims of the society on the enlarged support of every Christian.

THE RELIGIOUS TRACT SOCIETY.

May 5.—Exeter-hall.—John Labouchere, Esq., in the chair.

This important society was, as it deserves, most numerously attended, and the multitudinous details of its vast operations listened to with a patience which their grave importance deserved.

An abstract of the annual report of the society was read by Mr. Jones, the corresponding secretary and superintendent. It briefly referred to the operations of this society and its auxiliaries in China, Java, Burmah, Assam, India, Ceylon, Australasia, New Zealand, South Sea Islands, West and South Africa, Spanish America, West Indies, New Providence, the United States of America, British North America, Newfoundland, Labrador, France, Switzerland, Belgium, Spain, Portugal, Italy, Hungary, Carinthia, Lower Saxony, Wirtemberg, Iceland, Denmark, Russia, the Mediterranean and adjacent countries. In noticing the home proceedings the committee expressed their regret at the retirement of Mr. John Davis, the society's superintendent, the duties of which office he discharged for nearly twenty-four years in a faithful and conscientious manner. The following grants of publications were reported:—for Sabbath-day circulation, soldiers, sailors, and rivermen, Home Missionary, District Visiting, City and Town Missions, Christian Instruction, and other kindred Societies, British Emigrants, prisoners, hospitals, workhouses, railway workmen, fairs, races, foreigners in England, special occasions at public executions, convict ships, and other important objects, amounting to 1,677,936; grants to Scotland, Wales, and Ireland, 302,557. The value of the foregoing grants is £2,668 18s. One hundred and six

libraries have been granted during the year to schools, destitute districts, and union-houses; also a grant of books, value £60, at half-price, has been made to form libraries for the police. The report further stated the proposals of the committee for the formation of factory libraries, and the issue of cheap books, and their efforts counteract those principles which are opposed to the Reformation. The new publications of the year were 218; publications circulated amount to 16,469,551, making the total circulation of the society, in nearly ninety languages, including the issues of foreign societies, assisted by the parent institution, to amount to nearly 377,000,000. The total benevolent income of the year amounts to £4980 15s. 10d.; special donations received for China to 31st of March, £1747 4s. 4d.; proceeds of sales, £43,064 14s. 9d.; gratuitous issues amount to £6649 7s. 1d., being £1668 11s. 3d. beyond the amount of the benevolent contributions, without any charge or expenses whatever thereon; legacies, £999 19s. Total receipts, £52,605 7s. 9d.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN SCHOOL SOCIETY.

May 8th.—Lord John Russell in the chair.

The meeting was addressed by Earl Fitzwilliam, Rev. Dr. Reed, Hon. and Rev. Baptist Noel, Rev. Dr. Alder, John Barton, Esq., Rev. Samuel Green, — Cheatham, Esq., Lord Monteagle, Rev. John Burnet, and Colonel Fox, M.P.

The report stated that the financial affairs were far from discouraging; and that the appearance of the schools throughout the country indicated improvement, and that the practicability and usefulness of the system on which they were founded were fully proved by continued experience. It also adverted to the educational measure introduced into Parliament by Sir James Graham, the spirit and tendency of which it condemned: the society had watched with anxiety the movements of Government with respect to education, and whatever might ultimately be the nature of those movements, the committee wished that no amount of aid which Government might grant would ever induce the society to compromise in the smallest degree the great principles which had regulated it from its institution.

We shall continue these reports in our future numbers, and shall, for the present, conclude the subject with the

FESTIVAL OF THE SONS OF THE CLERGY.

of which we have given an accurate picture.

On Tuesday, May 9th, the rehearsal of the music took place in the Cathedral Church of St. Paul, at which about 2000 persons were present. The choir was conducted by Sir George Smart; the vocal and instrumental performers were numerous and efficient, belonging to the Royal Society of Musicians, and led by Mr. Cramer; the choruses were assisted by the young gentlemen of her Majesty's Chapel Royal, St. Paul's, and Westminster Abbey; the pieces rehearsed were Handel's "Dettingen Te Deum," Atwood's "Cantate Domine," the grand chaut "Deus miseratur," the "Gloria Patria," followed by Handel's sublime "Hallelujah chorus," the whole concluding with the "Coronation Anthem," the congregation all standing.

On Thursday, May 11th, the grand performance took place in the presence of Prince George of Cambridge, who acted as the representative of the King of Hanover, who had promised to preside, the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishops of Chester, Norwich, and Llandaff, the Lord Mayor, Alderman Brown, and an audience less numerous than usual. The performers exerted themselves to give due effect to the glorious tasks assigned them, but, owing to the confined nature of the choir, and the open arcades by which it is surrounded, with less apparent power and precision than their actual execution of the music might have entitled them to expect. The echoing vaults of St. Paul's will, in like manner, continue to present impediments to the *exact* distribution of musical sounds. The collections, although liberally supported by the distinguished visitors, were, we fear, but small in amount.



THE FASHIONS.

Paris, Rue Chaussée, d'Antin, May 5, 1843.

Mon cher Monsieur.—Although the month of April has been generally very cold, yet, nevertheless, the few fine days we have lately had will enable me to complete my observations, and to give you, if not all the summer fashions, at least such as are generally prevalent at the present moment. In the first place I consider that the choice of materials generally worn is now so decidedly shown that I may speak of them with some degree of certainty. Of these Pekins and damasks may be said to occupy the first place. The former article is so divided and subdivided, and is seen under so many different forms, and the varieties are so extensive, that it is somewhat difficult to enumerate them. I may, however, state that those most sought for and preferred are the agate Pekin; dark, aëriel, colibri, Cashmere, zebra, and cross-striped Pekins; the Bengal, with stripes worked upon shaded ground; the crystal Pekin, of a soft and vapoury blue colour like that of a summer sky; and the caméleon Pekin, with a triple shoot, with little flowers worked in different shades distributed all over its surface. Of the damask the most beautiful in my opinion are the damasks in the style of Louis XIII. and Louis XV., with designs worked in white silk upon silver-shot grounds, and different sorts of dark taffeties. As yet the few fine days we have had have permitted no exhibition of light fancy stuffs in any great quantity and variety; the best of these, however, may be said to be the barèges with slight stripes of satin printed in colours, and others having small squares embroidered in ponceau or blue silk upon a white ground. As regards the style of the dresses most worn it is difficult to speak decisively, as, although we meet with numerous narrow sleeves, we may the next moment see others half wide at top and bottom to allow the escape of a double bouillon of muslin terminated by a lace frill. So it is also with corsages, for, although low corsages are frequently to be met with, still, even in the best and most fashionable circles, we see high corsages worn gathered in at the shoulder with a narrow waistband, or still higher a little gathered, with plain sleeves trimmed with rounded frills. Skirts are now worn with two deep plaits, with two long rucked flounces, or with a single flounce, but made in black lace. Some skirts I have seen are still covered with embroidery in spots or with passementerie ornaments; but it appears to me that this description of ornament is fast going out of fashion.

HENRIETTE DE B.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—FRIDAY.

Their lordships were engaged in the morning on the Townshend Peerage Bill, but came to no conclusion.—In the evening meeting their lordships went into committee on the Registration of Voters Bill; ordered to be committed on Thursday next.—The Exchequer Bills Bill went through committee.—Lord Beaumont brought the subject of Serbia before the house, entering at considerable length into the question.—The Earl of Aberdeen replied to the noble lord, who withdrew his motion, and the house adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—FRIDAY.

The Neath Harbour Bill and the Glasgow Gas Bill were read a third time, and passed. Many petitions were presented against the Factory Education Bill.—Mr. S. CRAWFORD gave notice of a motion, on the 18th May, for shortening the duration of Parliaments.—Mr. HUME gave notice of a motion to provide schools at the public expense, without interfering with religious opinions.—Lord Elton moved the second reading of the Irish Poor-law Amendment Bill. He condemned the conduct of those Irish members who abandoned their duty in the house, and discussed the bill at public meetings—a bill which had been the result of careful consideration, and respecting which he entered into some explanatory detail.—Mr. FRENCH said the Irish Poor-law had been founded on the empty assertions and inaccurate representations of Mr. Nicholls. He cited the sentiments of boards of guardians, &c., against the law, and moved that the bill be read that day six months.—Mr. S. CRAWFORD seconded the motion, contending that the poor-law was a main cause of the agitation for the repeal of the union.—After some further discussion Mr. French withdrew his amendment, and the bill was read a second time.—The remaining business of a routine nature was then gone through, including the introduction of a bill, by Sir J. Graham, to regulate the Milbank Penitentiary.—Adjourned.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.

The LORD CHANCELLOR took his seat on the Woolsack at five o'clock. The Exchequer Bills Bill was read a third time and passed.—The Marquis of CLANRICARDE moved for a select committee to consider of the operation of the Irish poor-law, stating a number of circumstances illustrative of the necessity of inquiring thoroughly into the system. He thought the present law never could give satisfaction to the people of Ireland, and one should be adopted upon a wholly different principle. He did not wish to delay the bill which was now pending in another place, but he thought the inquiry might be going on during the progress of the bill.—The Archbishop of DUBLIN seconded the motion. He had paid great attention to the working of the present law in Ireland, and unless it was most materially altered, the growing opinion in Ireland, that it could never be properly legislated for by the Imperial Parliament, would be much strengthened. He could say of his own knowledge that since the passing of the Irish poor-law the number of the poor had materially increased, and mendicancy had also very much increased, and there was the additional evil, that one effect of the law had been to dry up the sources of private charity. He would not say that the Irish Poor-law Bill was an attempt to raise money on false pretences, but he would remind their lordships that it was brought in with a view to suppress mendicancy. They had, however, rejected the clauses for the purpose of putting a stop to mendicancy, and passed the remainder of the bill.—The Duke of WELLINGTON opposed the motion. He admitted that there were many defects in the Irish poor-law, but the object of the noble marquis was to have the law altogether repealed. This he would not consent to, for he had the evidence of several of his noble friends near him that the law was upon the whole satisfactory, though it required alteration. There was at this moment a bill in the other house to remedy its defects, and when it came before their lordships such alterations might be proposed in committee as would remedy the evils complained of. As to any want of attention on the part of their lordships to measures relating to Ireland, he must say there was no such inattention. When the question of the poor-law was formerly before the house, he remarked that much anxiety was evinced by their lordships on both sides respecting the bill, which then passed into law.—The Earl of GLENALL supported the motion, and condemned the new municipal corporations as the greatest nuisance in Ireland, without even excepting the Poor-law Bill.—The Earl of WICKLOW denied that the opposition to the Poor-law was general throughout Ireland. On the contrary, he was of opinion that in many parts of the country it was working very well. He hoped that persons in Ireland would not be suffered to agitate the whole country with a view to a dissolution of the union with perfect impunity.—The Earl of MOUNTCASHEL supported the motion with a view to rectify the evils complained of by the people of Ireland.—The Marquis of DOWNSHIRE said there was a great deal of interested agitation in Ireland against the poor-law.—Lord Courtney supported the motion.—The Marquis of LANSDOWNE said a case of inquiry had certainly been made out if the Government had not undertaken to bring in a measure to remedy the evils complained of. He thought, however, in the new bill that some measure should be introduced against mendicancy.—The Earl of RIPLEY supported the motion, for he never thought the bill at all adapted to the peculiar condition of the people of Ireland.—The Marquis of CLANRICARDE replied, and said he would withdraw his motion had any intimation been held out that the bill would be referred, when it came before them, to a committee up stairs.—The Duke of WELLINGTON said that the noble lord could not expect him at that time to say what course should be pursued. He would consider of the matter, and when the bill came up from the other house, if that course should be deemed advisable by their lordships, he would not object to it.—The motion was then withdrawn, and their lordships adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.

Mr. Hussey took the oath and his seat on his election for the city of Salisbury, in the room of Mr. W. B. Brodie, being introduced by Sir J. Y. Butler and Mr. H. Ashley.—The SPEAKER informed the house that he had received the report from the clerk of the recognizances stating that the sureties in the case of the third petitioner, complaining of an undue return for the borough of Nottingham, were unexceptionable.—A great number of petitions were presented against the Corn-laws and the Factories Education Bill.—Mr. ROXBURGH gave notice that at the earliest opportunity he should call the attention of the house to the late transactions in Sicinde, and he hoped the papers relating to them would be published by the Government.—The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER then rose to make his financial statement. He referred to the alteration in the tariff last year, from which it was natural to expect an immediate reduction in the revenue, and that the receipt of a considerable portion of the new taxation would be deferred for six or nine months. Sir R. Peel had estimated the amount of revenue likely to be derived from the customs at £21,500,000. It had actually amounted to £20,750,000. Of this deficiency £500,000 was to be attributed to the fact that owing to the expected alterations in the duty the uncertainty which prevailed deterred all merchants who had a sufficient stock to go on from becoming purchasers. A similar feeling of uncertainty had caused a reduction of duty on foreign spirits to the extent of £200,000. There had been also a loss on the timber duty of £675,000; but, in the quarter preceding the 5th of April that loss had been greatly diminished, the whole loss on the quarter being only £87,000, showing a revival of that trade to a very considerable extent. Coffee exhibited a similar result. It had been estimated that there would be a loss on coffee to the extent of £170,000, and up to January it amounted to £110,000; but, up to the 5th of April the loss had only been £48,000. On the smaller articles the loss, he regretted to say, exceeded the estimate, which was £250,000, the loss being £316,000. There was an increase in the consumption of tea to the extent of 1,000,000 lbs; while in sugar, tobacco, pepper, molasses, and other articles which were material to the comfort of the people, the consumption had also considerably increased. The increase recently in the revenue, arising from the duty on cotton, was also so great as to indicate that that trade was rapidly reviving from the depression under which it laboured. The estimate of the revenue from excise last year was £13,700,000. The actual revenue derived was £12,500,000. The greater portion of this defalcation was to be attributed to the deficiency of the malt duty, arising from the deficiency in the barley crop of the preceding year. His right honourable friend (Sir R. Peel) anticipated an increase to the revenue of £200,000, arising from the increased duty of one shilling a gallon on Irish spirits, but the actual result of that duty was only £55,000. The right honourable gentleman then went through the other items, showing the difference between the estimated and the actual result and the stated and the general result. The estimates of Sir R. Peel of the revenue for the year was £47,640,000—the actual result was only £45,600,000, leaving a deficiency of £2,040,000 in the ordinary revenue of the country. From this, however, was to be deducted the Chinese ransom money, amounting to £1,720,000, reducing the deficiency to £1,290,000. It was a fortunate circumstance that the Property-tax was resorted to in order to rescue the country from such a position. It was estimated that it would produce 3,703,000, but of this sum only £2,500,000 had been received. It was calculated, however, that the produce of the Income-tax would amount to £5,100,000. Taking the total deficiencies into account there would still be a surplus deficiency of 2,400,000 to be provided for. But there were two other charges which should be provided for, though they were charges which could not occur again—namely, £1,250,000 for the opium confiscated at Canton, and £800,000 to the East India Company. He thought better that this country should pay this money in the first instance, and the money, as it was paid by China, might be carried to account. He did not propose, however, to bring these sums into the expenditure of the year, but would meet them by a vote of credit until liquidated as he had said by the payments from China. He estimated the income of the forthcoming year at £50,150,000, and the expenditure at £49,337,000, leaving a surplus revenue of £760,000. He estimated the produce of the customs for the ensuing year at £19,000,000. Last year the produce from this source of revenue was £23,730,000, but of this £1,738,000 arose from the importation of foreign corn, which was not likely to produce anything this year. There had been reductions in the ordinary items of expenditure of £903,000, and the surplus of £760,000 was available to meet a portion of the arrears with which the year commenced. Such was the statement he had to lay before the house. It was one which compelled him to resist the applications which were made to him from various quarters for a remission of taxation, for in such a state of the revenue he could not adopt any alterations as experiments which might lead to an immediate loss to the revenue, even though to all appearances they might prove ultimately productive. The right hon. gentleman

quoted various trade circulars, in order to show that trade was rapidly reviving in Lancashire, and concluded by moving the usual formal vote.—In reply to a question from Lord Howick, Mr. GOULBURN said that no reduction of taxation was in contemplation.—Mr. LABOUCHERE asked if no alteration was to take place in the duties on sugar?—Mr. GOULBURN said he had no intention to make any alteration.—Mr. HUME said the present Government had done no better than that which preceded it, for its difficulties had rather increased than diminished. He had expected some such proposition as the repeal of the Malt-tax, and was disappointed that nothing was to be done.—Mr. F. BARING contended that the Government had proved themselves to be both false critics and bad financiers. The revenue had produced less by £2,000,000 than the estimate of Sir R. Peel, and all that they had got out of the pockets of the people by means of the Income-tax they had lost on articles of consumption. Their Coal-tax and their Irish spirit duty had turned out to be failures, and the latter had led to considerable demoralisation in Ireland by encouraging illicit distillation. They should try to increase the revenue by a reduction of the duty on sugar, butter, cheese, and wool. They had reduced the duty on coffee, and it would be no harm to enable the people to purchase sugar to mix with it.—Sir R. PEEL contended that such reductions had taken place in the great articles of consumption, in consequence of the measures of last session, as would amply compensate for the income-tax to all economical householders. So far his prediction was verified, as was also the prediction that commerce would revive as a consequence of the reductions in the tariff. There were also apparent very decided symptoms of a revival of manufacturing industry, although the iron, coal, and some other branches of trade, were in a state of great depression. As there was still a deficiency, he hoped the house would not press any reduction upon the Government. In what a position the country would have been had it not been for the income-tax! No measure more effective, or less objectionable, could have met the difficulty; and although the revival of trade had been delayed, yet the owners of property would, he was satisfied, sustain the income-tax against any attempts at its repeal. It would have been most agreeable to him to be enabled to propose a further reduction of duties; but, in the present state of the revenue, he could not feel himself justified in making any such proposition.—Lord J. RUSSELL said that the budget of the late Government contemplated the benefit of trade and commerce, while the financial measures of the present Government, without that object, still contrived to preserve the whole of the deficiency for which they had to provide on entering office. The noble lord contended for the reduction of the duty on sugar, which would be quite in accordance with the new tariff, but the right hon. baronet was halting in the course upon which he had started, and nothing would be done for the commerce of the country.—After some observation from Mr. S. Wortley, Lord Howick called on the house to adopt a bold line of commercial legislation as the only means of bringing back the country to a healthy condition.—Mr. LIDDELL condemned the pernicious effects of the duty on the exportation of coal.—Mr. HUTT asked whether it was intended to reduce the interest on the Three-and-a-half per Cent?—The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said he could be guided by circumstances.—After some observations from Mr. Bell, Mr. LABOUCHERE contended for a reduction of the duty on sugar, though he feared if the right hon. baronet came to deal with that subject he would act as he had done with the timber duties. The result of the right hon. baronet's policy would entail the Income-tax upon the country not for three but for ten years.—Mr. M. GIBSON contended that the duty on raw cotton ought to be removed. He also advocated the reduction of the sugar duties.—In reply to a question from Mr. Williams, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said he had no means whatever to ascertain the amount of the frauds which had been perpetrated on the Custom-house. He expected the report of the commission of inquiry very shortly, and would lay it before the house; but that would only refer to the amount of fraud which had been discovered.—In reply to a question from Mr. Hutt, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER stated the mode in which those parties from whose dividends the Income-tax was deducted, but who had not an income of £150 a year, might get back the money so deducted. He also stated that the Bank was instructed not to deduct hereafter the Income-tax from those who were this year exempted, provided their amount of stock continued the same as at present.—In reply to a question from Mr. Ewart, Sir R. PEEL declined to say whether the same propositions as to the sugar duties had been made to other countries as had been made to Brazil.—The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said, with respect to the complaint made by the hon. member, of the tedious and prolonged attendance of persons at the courts of the commissioners of the income-tax, that all that could be done by way of mitigating this inconvenience, and of relieving people in general from any unnecessary loss of time or fatigue, had been accomplished, and he hoped in future no occasion for complaint would be found to exist.—The resolution was then agreed to. The house resumed; and the chairman having reported it to the house, asked leave to sit again.—After a short conversation between Sir J. Graham, Lord J. Russell, Mr. Jervis, and other hon. members, the second reading of the County Courts Bill was postponed until Friday.—The other orders of the day being then disposed of, the house adjourned at half-past eleven.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—TUESDAY.

At a few minutes before four o'clock the Lord Chancellor, the Duke of Buccleuch, and the Earl of Shaftesbury took their seats in front of the throne, and, in the presence of the Speaker, with a number of members of the House of Commons, the royal assent was given by commission to the Exchequer Bills (£9,050,000) Bill, the Lancashire Cemetery Bill, and several private bills.—The Earl of ROSEN referred to the agitation in Ireland for the repeal of the union, stating that it had given rise to greater alarm and distrust amongst the loyal portion of the population than had ever before existed. It was true that in Ulster, with which province he was more immediately connected, the people were sound and loyal, and were ready to do in 1843 what they had so effectually done in 1798. He quoted what had been stated by Lord Althorp and by Sir R. Peel on former occasions, and concluded by asking if Government were aware of the dangerous excitement prevailing in Ireland, and whether steps would be taken to put a stop to it?—The Duke of WELLINGTON said that the Irish Government were quite aware of the extent of the agitation and consequent excitement in that country, and of the danger which might possibly flow from it. Every attention had been given to the subject, and the Government in this country had adopted measures to enable the Government of Ireland to preserve the public peace, should any attempt be made to disturb it. It was the determination of the Government to maintain inviolate the integrity of the empire, and he had no doubt they would receive every aid from Parliament in so doing.—Lord BROUGHAM said their lordships would not hesitate unanimously to concur in the sentiments expressed by the noble duke. A severance of the legislative union meant, in fact, the disruption of the empire. To prevent such a destruction of the two countries the whole force of the kingdom, moral and physical, would be at once put forth at the first intimation of its necessity.—The Marquis of LANSDOWNE said that the Government might confidently rely upon the aid of the house in its efforts to maintain the integrity of the empire.—The Marquis of DOWNSHIRE said that what had just taken place afforded him the greatest satisfaction, for it was highly requisite that attention should be directed to the present excited state of the people of Ireland upon this question.—Lord Campbell presented a petition which brought the question of the Scotch Church once more under discussion, and the Marquis of Breadalbane pressed Lord Aberdeen to declare what Government would do upon the subject.—Lord Aberdeen said he had done so more than once, but he had no objection to repeat what he had already said upon the subject. He should be very glad if he could prevent the disruption of the Church of Scotland, which it was said would follow the secession of some of its ablest ministers; but, if the Church insisted on claims inconsistent with liberty, and with the recognised principles of law in this free Protestant country—if they sought to establish a tyranny which it would be odious and degrading to submit to, it was impossible to support them. The principle which he was prepared to recognise was the right of the people to object, and the right of the Presbytery to judge.—After some further discussion, in which the Duke of Argyll, Lord Brougham, and Lord Campbell took part, the petition was laid upon the table, and their lordships adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

The house met at four o'clock, and immediately afterwards Sir A. Clifford, the gentleman usher of the black rod, appeared at the table, and summoned the house to attend in the House of Peers to hear the royal assent given by the Lords Commissioners to several bills, for which see Lords' report.—The SPEAKER informed the house that the examiner of recognizances had reported that the surety to the petition of Major Beresford, complaining of an undue return for the borough of Athlone, was unobjectionable.—The petitions against the Corn-laws and the Factories Education Bill were exceedingly numerous.—On the motion that the amendments on the Northampton and Peterborough Railway, agreed to by the committee, be read a second time, Mr. ASTELL objected to the amendments, and moved that they be read that day six months.—The house divided—Ayes, 195; noes, 161: majority, 31.—The amendments were agreed to.—Lord JOCelyn begged to ask the right hon. baronet whether the Government was aware of the frightful agitation at present carried on in Ireland, upon the subject of the repeal of the legislative union between this country and Ireland; whether the Government were determined to take any steps for its suppression; and he should likewise ask the right hon. baronet, if he had no objection to answer the question, for the satisfaction of the loyal people of Ireland, whether her Majesty's Government intended at all risks and at all hazards to maintain the legislative union between the two countries inviolate?—Sir R. PEEL then rose, and in a solemn and emphatic manner spoke as follows: I rejoice that my noble friend has given me an opportunity of making, on the part of the government, a public declaration on the important subject to which he has called the attention of the house; and I think it necessary on this occasion to remind the house of what have been, within no very distant period, the publicly recorded opinion and engagements of the Crown and both houses of Parliament with respect to the legislative union of Great Britain and Ireland. In 1831 the sovereign of this country, in addressing the Parliament, used these expressions: "I have seen with feelings of deep regret and just indignation the continuance of attempts to excite the people of that country to demand a repeal of the legislative union. This bond of our national strength and safety I have already declared my fixed and unalterable resolution, under the blessing of Divine Providence, to maintain inviolate by all the means in my power. In support of this determination,

I cannot doubt the zealous and effectual co-operation of my Parliament and my people." (The reading of this passage was followed by very loud cheering.) These expressions of the sovereign of this country was responded to by Parliament. Both houses of Parliament presented an address to the throne shortly after the delivery of the royal speech—it was a joint address from the two houses—in which they embodied their sentiments and entered into engagements on the subject. Both houses of Parliament approached the Crown, and, in a joint address, recorded in the most solemn manner their fixed determination to maintain, unimpaired and undisturbed, the legislative union between Great Britain and Ireland, which, they said, "we consider to be essential to the strength and stability of the empire, to the continuance of the connexion between the two countries, and to the peace and security and happiness of all classes of your Majesty's subjects." (Cheers.) On the part of her Majesty, I am authorised to repeat the declaration made by King William (continued cheering); and I have no doubt that the present houses of Parliament would, if necessary, be prepared to fulfil the engagements into which their predecessors entered. (Cheers.) I can state to my noble friend that her Majesty's government in this country and Ireland are fully alive to the evils which arise from the existing agitation in the latter country in respect to the repeal of the Union; and I further state this—that there is no influence, no power, no authority, which the prerogatives of the Crown and the existing law give to the Government, which shall not be exercised for the purpose of maintaining the union—the dissolution of which would involve, not merely the repeal of an act of Parliament, but the dismemberment of this great empire. (Cheers from all parts.) Of this I am confident, that an executive government can lose nothing of moral or real strength by confining as long as possible in the ordinary powers which the law and constitution give them (hear, hear), and in being unwilling, without urgent necessity, to disengage those ordinary powers by asking for increased authority; but I do not hesitate for one moment to state that, if such necessity should arise, her Majesty's Government will, without an instant's hesitation, appeal to Parliament for additional and effectual powers which will enable them to avert the mighty evil that would arise—not only to this country, but more especially to Ireland—from a successful attempt to sever the connection between the two countries. (Cheers.) I am also prepared to make, in my place here, the declaration which was made, and nobly made, by my predecessor, I mean Lord Althorp (hear, hear)—that, deprecating as I do, all war, but, above all, civil war, yet there is no alternative which I do not think preferable to the dismemberment of this empire. (Loud cheers.) I do hope that what has been called our forbearance and apathy may not be misconstrued. I believe the Government will derive additional strength from deferring an appeal for fresh powers until the necessity for doing so shall actually occur; but I think I have furnished the house with sufficient proof that we are fully alive to the importance of this subject, and that if the occasion should unhappily arise, we shall appeal to this house for the fulfilment of those solemn engagements which their predecessors entered into in 1831, and which I doubt not they will, when convinced that it is necessary, readily fulfil. (Cheers.) In conclusion, I thank my noble friend for the opportunity he has given me of making this declaration on the part of the Government. (Cheers.)—The house was greatly excited during the right hon. baronet's speech.—Captain BERNAL: As the right hon. baronet has referred to one declaration of Lord Althorp, I wish to know whether he will abide by another declaration of that noble lord, namely—that if all the members for Ireland should be in favour of repeal, he would consider it his bounden duty to grant it. ("Oh," and laughter.)—Sir R. PEEL: I do not recollect that Lord Althorp ever made any such declaration as that which the honourable and gallant member attributes to him, but if he did I am not prepared to abide by it. (Hear, hear.)—Mr. VILLIERS then moved the following resolution, "That this house will resolve itself into a committee of the whole house, for the purpose of considering the duties affecting the importation of foreign corn, with a view to their immediate abolition." The hon. gentleman said that, since the year 1838 there had been paid for food no less than sixty millions more than in the four preceding years, the result of which was an abstraction of capital, the decline of the home markets, and, as a consequence of that decline, the glutting of foreign markets, until our merchants became ruined, and our whole population were plunged into a distress so deep as not to be paralleled even by the horrors of war. As a proof of the increase of distress, he stated that the number of casual poor relieved by the city of London in 1836 was only 925, whereas in 1842 the number amounted to 2,932. The use of wheaten bread was denied to ten millions of the people—a fact as startling as it was disgraceful, while a plague had arisen in Louisiana, because for want of a market the produce was left to rot upon the ground. Pitiful remedies had been proposed, but the master evil, the Corn-law, was left untouched, though it interfered not only with commerce but with agriculture also, by raising deceptive expectations as to prices, and thus preventing such an equitable arrangement between landlord and tenant as would tend to develop the real capabilities of the soil.—Mr. V. Stuart seconded the motion.—Mr. GLABSTONE at once announced the determination of Government to leave no doubt whatever as to its intentions. He denied that the Corn-law Bill which was to be proposed was any amendment of the Corn-law of this country—it was in fact but a portion of the measures of the last year.—He deplored most sincerely the sufferings of the people, but comparing our present with our past position he must say that the means of subsistence, both as to quantity and quality, during the last ten years was far better than it had been two centuries ago. The corn-law of his right hon. friend had been in operation but one short year—in many respects an extraordinary year, for the spring gave the most unfavourable indications of the abundant harvest which followed, and all calculations in the corn-trade were consequently baffled. Under these circumstances the law, he contended, had not had a fair trial. The right hon. gentleman concluded a very able speech by declaring his belief that Government would be unworthy of the confidence of this great country were they to assent to the motion of the hon. gentleman.—Mr. TRELAWNEY supported the motion, and urged the Government to be more liberal in the application of the principles which they had themselves acted upon in the measures of last session.—Mr. CHRISTOPHER contended that to adopt principles of free trade towards foreign countries, without any guarantee of reciprocity, would be wholly useless to the manufacturer, while it would be ruinous to the agriculturist.—Mr. ROXBURGH said that in 1815 the landlords consulted their own interests by keeping up high prices and high rents, by means of a law prohibiting the importation of foreign corn. This was the original reason for establishing the monopoly, and it was mere hypocrisy to deny it. He did not think that the immediate result of free trade would be to render all the people prosperous; but a free trade in corn would introduce a larger portion of food, and the greater the proportion introduced the greater would be the quantity which would fall to the share of each individual labourer. He concluded by declaring that he would vote for the motion of Mr. Villiers.—Mr. MILES then moved the adjournment of the debate, which was at once agreed to.—The other orders of the day were then disposed of, and the house adjourned at half past twelve o'clock.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—WEDNESDAY.

At the conclusion of the proceedings on the Townshend Peerage Bill the Lord Chancellor quitted the house, and the Woolsack was taken by the Earl of Shaftesbury.—Several private bills were forwarded a stage.—Messengers from the Commons brought up the Anderton Carrying Company's Bill and the Leeds Gass Bill, which were severally read a first time.—The house then adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—WEDNESDAY.

The adjourned debate on the Corn-laws was resumed.—Mr. W. MILES opposed the motion. Mr. Muntz had said on one occasion, that if the Bread Tax was taken off the Chancellor of the Exchequer could not carry on the business of the Government; and he (Mr. Miles) thought the Government had gone quite far enough on the subject.—Mr. WARD said, although he agreed with the right hon. gentleman the Vice-President of the Board of Trade, who spoke last night, that no practical good could be derived from his hon. friend's motion in the present state of the house, yet it was incumbent on the opponents of the present system of Corn laws to state and enforce their objections, and he did not despair of seeing their principles ultimately adopted by the right hon. baronet at the head of her Majesty's Government, and carried into effect in the same way in which he had accommodated himself to the repeal of the Test and Corporation Acts, and the Act of Catholic Emancipation.—Mr. Fitzmaurice opposed the motion.—Sir CHARLES NAPIER would rather have voted for a fixed duty, but as no hon. member had brought forward a motion for a fixed duty, he would vote for the immediate and total repeal; because he considered the entire abolition would be preferable to the sliding scale.—Mr. BAILE COCHRANE said that if agriculturists were determined to maintain their own interests, no influence could defeat them.—Sir GEORGE STRICKLAND said he should support the motion, as he thought no opportunity so favourable as the present for a change being effected in the Corn-laws, which would greatly benefit the revenue, and relieve the distress under which the people were now suffering.—Mr. H. J. BAILEY hoped the legislature would never agree to remove the protection on corn.—Mr. GIBSON believed the farmers would receive a benefit from free trade, and on that account he gave his hearty support to the motion of his hon. friend.—Mr. Colquhoun opposed the motion.—Lord Howick, although he professed himself an advocate for a small fixed duty, would, however, support the present motion, because, if the house went into committee, it would be in his power to move a resolution substituting a small fixed duty on corn for the present high and uncertain duties.—Mr. BLACKSTONE said he would not vote for the motion of the hon. member for Wolverhampton; at the same time he did not think ministers were giving satisfaction to the country on the subject of the Corn-laws.—Mr. WALLACE was of opinion that nothing short of a total repeal of the Corn-laws would satisfy the public.—Mr. Alexander CAMPBELL thought the right hon. baronet had not gone far enough; but he could not vote for the motion before the house.—On the motion of Mr. Peter Borthwick the debate was adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

The house was occupied with the resumed debate on Mr. Villiers' motion for the repeal of the Corn-laws.

We understand that, within the last few days, further frauds, to a considerable amount, have been discovered at the Custom-house. Several official persons have been suspended from their functions in consequence.



BROUGHAM-HALL.

As the title to this picturesquely-situated property, and the estates annexed to it, is about to become the subject of litigation, the following details may be interesting to our readers:—

Brougham-hall is not far distant from the village of Brougham, at the northern extremity of the county of Westmoreland, on the military road to Carlisle. It stands upon a woody eminence on the east side of the river Lowther; and from the richness, variety, and extent of the prospect from its fine terraces, it is often styled "the Windsor of the North." It has a fine hall, lit by five pointed windows, filled with painted glass, ancient and modern. Nearly adjoining to it is the chapel of Brougham, dedicated to St. Wilfred, as appears by the rector of Brougham agreeing, in 1393, to find it "two seargies afore St. Wilfred, at his own proper cost," at which time it was endowed with lands adjoining to it; but these have since been exchanged for others contiguous to the glebe of the church. In 1658 and 1659 the Countess of Pembroke rebuilt it; and some years since the rector of the parish performed evening service in it when the family were residing at Brougham-hall.

Northward of the hall are the venerable ruins of Brougham Castle, which, in Leland's time, the common people believed "did sink." Roman urns, coin, and other relics of our conquerors have been found in great abundance here. The greater part of the castle was built by Roger Lord Clifford, son of Isabella de Veteripont, who placed over its door this inscription—"This made Roger." An inscription, in 1403, found it and its demesne worth nothing, "because it lieth altogether waste, by reason of the destruction of the country by the Scots." Yet, in 1617, King James was magnificently entertained here, on his return from his last journey out of Scotland. In 1651 and 1652 the castle was repaired by Anne, Countess of Pembroke; but after her death it appears to have been dismantled and neglected, and its stone, timber, and wainscoting sold. The centre of the building was a lofty square tower, with turrets at the angles; the outworks were very considerable.

The castle, or rather its ruins, is not now the property of Lord Brougham, nor has it been in his family since the reign of King John. It belongs to the Earl of Thanet, as representative of the Clifford family, to whom it descended from the Veteriponts. Before the Norman Conquest, the manor and lordship of Brougham (then called Burgham) were held by the Saxon family of De Burgham, from whom Lord Brougham is lineally descended. After the conquest, William the Norman granted to Robert de Veteripont, or Vipont, extensive rights and territories in Westmoreland; and, among others, some oppressive rights of seignior over the manor of Brougham, then held by Walter de Burgham. To relieve the estate of such services, Gilbert de Burgham, in the reign of King John, agreed to give up absolutely one third part of his estate to Robert de Veteripont, and also the advowson of the rectory of Brougham. This third comprises the land upon which the castle is built, and the estate afterwards given by Anne Countess of Pembroke (heirress of Veteripont) to the Hospital for Poor Widows at Appleby. Brougham Castle, if not built, was much extended by Veteripont, and afterwards still more enlarged by Roger Clifford, who succeeded by marriage to the Veteripont possessions. The manor-house, or "Hall," about three quarters of a mile from the castle, continued in the Brougham family, and part of it, especially the gateway, is of early Norman architecture. The chapel is also ancient, except the roof, which was renewed in 1659. In 1607 Thomas Brougham, then lord of the manor of Brougham, died without issue male, and the estate was sold to one Bird, who was steward to the Clifford family; the heir male of the Brougham family then residing at Scales Hall, in Cumberland. About 1630 John Brougham, of Scales, repurchased the estate and manor of Brougham from Bird's grandson, and entailed it on his nephew, from whom it passed by succession to Lord Brougham.



RUINS OF BROUGHAM CASTLE.

In the *Kendal Mercury* it was recently stated that the Brougham estate, "until it came into the possession of the present noble occupant, was called Bird's Nest;" and we find it stated, in the "Beauties of England and Wales," "Birdnest, from its having belonged to the family of Bird." These statements are erroneous, although Bird certainly built a house upon that part of the property which he purchased; but this dwelling is clearly distinguished from Brougham-hall, as the following extract from Bishop Nicolson's manuscript, written about 1670, and now in the Dean and Chapter's library, at Carlisle, will show:—"The great Roman way brings you to the Roman camp, having on the left Browham and Browham-hall, the seat of the Broughams; from this you have the prospect of Lowther-hall, Clifton-hall, likewise of Penrith, Penrith Castle, and Carleton-hall; likewise of Browham-hall and chapel, and of Mr. Bird's house."

It appears that the Brougham estate is now claimed by one Thomas

Bird, and other parties, who have distrained for rent upon one of Lord Brougham's tenants at Wethericks, in the parish of Brougham; but his lordship has brought an action of trespass against the claimant. Upon the above information it is clear that the claim now set up by Mr. Bird has no legal or equitable foundation, and that the adverse claim of the Birds, however it may have arisen, has originated in some mistake as to the nature of their ancestor's title.

THE GOVERNOR OF THE MARQUESAS ISLANDS, CAPTAIN BRUAT.

The subject of this memoir had recently been appointed by Louis Philippe to the government of the Marquesas Islands, of which new French conquest an illustrated description has already appeared in our journal.

Armand Bruat, a native of Alsace, is in his forty-fifth or forty-sixth year. He entered the service in 1811, at Brest, where he became remarkable for his hardiness and robust habit. In 1815 he embarked under Commander Bouvet, in the brig *Hassard*, for Copenhagen, Brazil, and the Antilles. Shortly after his return, in 1817, he embarked in the corvette *L'Esperance*, which was stationed for three years in the Levant; and from 1819 to 1824 he succeeded to *Le Conquerant*, *Le Foudroyant*, and the frigate *Diane*, where he remained three years as *officier de manœuvre*. In 1824 he filled a similar post in the corvette *La Diligente*, and embarked on a laborious voyage in the South Sea, where he distinguished himself in the taking of the pirate *Le Quintanilla*. On his return he was made lieutenant, and next embarked in *Le Breslaw*, in which vessel he was at Navarino, in 1827, where he fired *L'Albion* and sunk two frigates, for which bravery Bruat was decorated with orders. In the following year he obtained the command of the brig *Silène*, which, in cruising under the forts of Algiers, took several prizes, but was subsequently wrecked, with the brig *Aventure*, on the coast of Africa, when, of 200 men, forming the crews of the two vessels, 110 were massacred. The devotedness of the commanders of the two vessels was such that, having reached Algiers, after a thousand dangers, they refused to accept the accommodation offered them by the Dey, with the English and Sardinian consuls, and would not leave their men; and, by their energies, the crews escaped destruction by the Bedouins. During his captivity Captain Bruat contrived, by letter, to make Admiral Duperré acquainted with the resources of the place; and M. De Bourmont, to whom this note was transmitted, publicly congratulated the captain upon his patriotic bravery.



CAPTAIN BRUAT.

Since 1830 the military career of Captain Bruat has been one of great activity. In this year he succeeded to the command of the brig *Ralinure*, to the *Grenadier* in 1832, and in 1835 to the *Ducoudrie*, which accompanied in the Levant the frigate *Iphigénie*, commanded by the Prince de Joinville. In this passage, his vessel having lost her mainmast and fore-topmast during the night, the captain repaired this great damage under the ship's yards three times in four-and-twenty hours. He was next attached to the station at Lisbon; and in the Tagus, in 1838, he was nominated ship's captain, under the command of Admiral Lalande, on board *L'Éna*, and became promoted to a flag. During two years he commanded this ship, of 92 guns, and, in her cruise in the Levant, in the most imposing squadron that France has displayed since the peace. After the recall of Admiral Lalande Captain Bruat succeeded to the *Triton*, and joined the squadron under Admiral Hugon, which becoming dispersed in a storm, the *Triton*, whose hull was very old, was nearly lost. At one period there were six feet of water in her hold, and the pumps could scarcely stop the leak; and it was not until after a struggle of several days that Captain Bruat, finding the ship had been much injured, decided to put into Cagliari, where the necessary repairs were promptly executed, and he returned to Toulon, in company with *Le Neptune*.

In July, 1841, Captain Bruat quitted his ship's command, and received the appointment of councillor of the works of the marine; and while he held this post he was called to the government of the Marquesas Islands and to the command of the naval department, taking with him a house built of wood, which the Minister of the Marine has had constructed by M. Potter. It is roofed with zinc, and consists of a ground and first floor; the entrance to the former is by a flight of six steps, leading to a vestibule, anti-chamber, office, study, *salle à manger*, reception-room, and billiard-room; and on the first floor are chambers for the accommodation of the governor and his family. The dimensions of this house are about sixty feet in length, fifty-eight in depth, and thirty-nine in height.

In concluding this brief sketch of the active services of Captain Bruat, we are happy to state that the report of his massacre in the Marquesas, published in the *Sun* of last Saturday week, is unfounded; the statement was that the governor and his suite, fourteen in number, on their return from a visit to the native sovereign, by whom they had been hospitably received, were waylaid and butchered by a party of the islanders.

INTERRUPTED AFFAIR OF "HONOUR" AT MUNICH.—Munich has long been the scene of rival contentions amongst the English residents respecting the church—one party supporting a minister who has done duty some time, but not of the Church of England, nor acknowledged by the Scottish Episcopalians, of which he calls himself a member—the other party wishing to have, as the society of Munich increases, a properly ordained and qualified clergyman, and who, it appears, has recently arrived. Certain expressions used in address at length have brought the matter to issue, and at this precise time the lady who brought the first candidate to Munich has made her professions, and gone over to the Roman Catholic Church. Two of the parties have been bound over in their own recognisances, but Lord Craven has since quitted Munich.

NOOKS AND CORNERS OF OLD ENGLAND.



WATER-EATON MANOR-HOUSE.

A pleasant walk of about three miles and a half, across the meadows, to the north of the city of Oxford, in the course of which several picturesque glimpses of the city and its numerous spires and towers present themselves, will bring the pedestrian to one of those "nooks" which, from their sequestered position, escape general observation, but which amply repay one for the trouble of seeking out. The spot to which we allude, and which forms the subject of our vignette, is the old Manor-House of Water-Eaton.

As a specimen of the domestic architecture of the early part of the 16th century it possesses interest to the antiquary and the lover of the picturesque; but there is an historical association connected with it which, though not generally known, invests it with a higher character, namely, that in this house King Charles I. resided as a guest of the chivalrous and devoted Lord Lovelace, prior to the assembly of his Parliament at Oxford, and from it the summonses calling that Parliament were issued. The house and manor of Water-Eaton were then the property of the Lord Lovelace. The mansion stands within an extensive court-yard, and is in the form of an oblong square. The porch, which is an addition, said to be from the design of Inigo Jones, is a good specimen of the style of his period; it consists of two three-quarter Doric columns resting upon pedestals, and surmounted by Ionic pillars, frieze, and entablature. Attached to the house is a very ancient chapel (one of the smallest in the kingdom), which is in good preservation, and is at present used as a chapel of ease to the parish church. Taken altogether, Water-Eaton is an interesting relic of days long gone by, which is well worthy of a visit. It is at present occupied as a farmhouse; and we cannot conclude this brief notice without expressing our thanks to its present tenant for the obliging civility with which, when making our sketch, he entertained us.

THE PRINCESS'S THEATRE.

Donizetti's lively *opera buffa* "L'Elisir d'Amore" has been produced at this elegant house for the *début* of Mlle. Albertazzi in her native language, as the fair representative of the coquettish *Adine*; a part which, although not exactly suited to her charming voice and style (that incline somewhat to the *il penseroso*), she sustained in a most delightful manner. Her voice is a mezzo soprano, more remarkable for sweet quality and wonderful fluency than for extraordinary compass or power. Some of the music of *Adine* is a little too high for it, which occasions the semblance of exertion, but, *au reste*, nothing could have been more graceful or finished than its general delivery. The good-humoured Blasis was the first whom we heard in this delightful opera; her rich, full voice and cheerful manner charmed everybody. We have heard others since; but perhaps had she the opportunity of representing the character in its native idiom of "la lingua bellissima per la musica," our beautiful countrywoman Albertazzi would, in every respect, be entitled to be considered as the *fairest* representative of all that have performed the part. Would that the libretto were better rendered into English; it is most sorry stuff! The part of the *nostrum*-doctor (*Dulcamara*) was ably sustained by Bedford, who infused a vast deal of well-conceived and locally satirical fun into the professional



ALBERTAZZI AND PAUL BEDFORD.

nonchalance of the mountebank; wisely eschewing any imitation Lablache, and by a dash or two here and there of his own peculiar broad colouring, making an excellent original picture, where an inferior artist would have been content with a servile copy. The performance was highly creditable to him, and indeed the *ensemble* of the "getting up" reflects the greatest praise on the liberal and indefatigable management. The *partition* of this Opera abounds with some of the most joyous as well as sentimental melodies that can be imagined, and would stamp, Donizetti, if he never had written another, as a first-rate *maestro*. Nothing can exceed the happy joyousness of the opening chorus: where can we find a more touching melody than "Una furtiva lagrima" (Alas! for poor Catome), or a more beautifully contrasted duo than "Obligato?" We are sick of the outcry against Donizetti—he is a great but perhaps too prolific a genius.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.



FORNASARI AS DON GIOVANNI.

There is a popular fallacy amongst us that the *chef-d'œuvre* of Mozart, the opera of "Don Giovanni," is dreaded by all Italian artists, and that they never will perform it but when they are managerially or otherwise influentially coerced to do so. The truth is, they full well know the magnitude of the undertaking,

and consequently always approach it with a timidity, which perhaps, after all, is the best proof of their veneration for its mighty excellence. Accustomed as they are, in the works of more thoughtless composers, to obtain applause by the easy repetition of their academical exercises (of which nine tenths of the *fioriture* of modern music are composed), they naturally shrink from a task which entails upon them the enlistment of all their mental and physical powers in the most active service, and which, although it may "ask them tears in the true performance," will obtain in return but a scanty donation of smiles (even from "the discerning few"), let them "charm never so wisely!" The consequence is that this splendid production is considered "un ingrat" for the pains bestowed upon its revival (two or three times a season), when it is hailed with more dutiful respect than affection, and then is laid by again for its next annual resuscitation. Let us not then blame the Italians—it is we who become satiated with the sweets of this grand work, and under the affected nausea of "tousjours perdrix" descend for variety to hashes and *entremets* of doubtful ingredients. Performed and sung as this stupendous opera has been recently at her Majesty's Theatre, it ought to have had a run for the better part of the season: but probably we shall hear no more of it till next year.

The chief novelty in its cast of the present season was the personation of the libertine hero by the versatile Fornasari. We very well recollect the great Garcia, Ambrozetti, and, of later years, Tamburini, in this arduous part, and are confident that, with a little more acquaintance with it (for he is scarcely yet mellow in it), Fornasari will outstrip all his predecessors in the just delineation of the gay, the accomplished, the seducing but heartless *Juan* of the Spanish story. His reading of the character evinced great study and nice discrimination, and his singing was most consonant with the *maestro's* inspirations. His execution of "Fin che dal vino" was most deservedly honoured with an *encore*; "Deh vieni" was also beautifully given, and received a similar compliment. By the way, this otherwise beautiful serenade always leaves a something unsatisfactory on our ears at the termination of the second part, which has the effect of ending upon a dominant instead of a tonic harmony. His "La ci darem" was most irresistibly persuasive; and the terrific scorn which he exhibited in the finale of the first act, when he hears the accusing word "Traditore" from the guests, was conceived and expressed in the highest perfection of artistic genius, as was also his subsequent scene with the statue, where he stood—

Hopeless, but not dejected, and borrowing
A majesty from crime!

As to the other personations, the ladies were the realities of Mozart's divine dreamings, and, perhaps, *Ottavio* was never before so truly or purely represented as by Mario. His "Il mio tesoro" was most exquisite. As to the *Leporello*, we cannot do better than parody the concise inscription over Ben Jonson, and exclaim—
O rare Lablache!

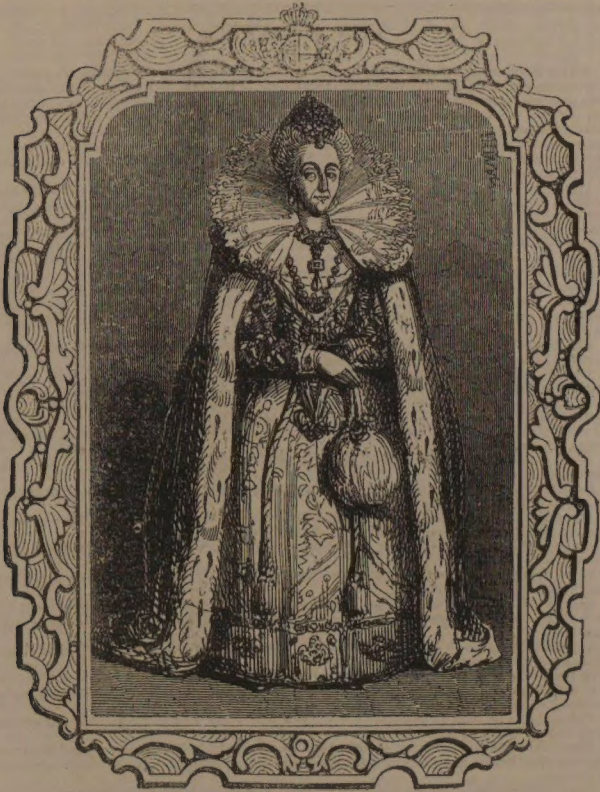
On Tuesday night Cerito, "the buoyant, the bounding, the free," with her whole soul in her beautiful art, appeared, for the first time this season, in Perrot's divertissement of "Les Houris." It would be invidious to attempt, perhaps impossible to achieve, any comparison between her and her bewitching predecessor in the same part: such attempts at contradistinction are apt to bewilder the judgment, and deprive us even of memory in the ecstasy of the present enjoyment.

ILLUSTRATED LITERATURE.

The ILLUMINATED MAGAZINE. Edited by DOUGLAS JERROLD.
No. I.

A "new magazine" is an attraction even in the palmy days of periodical publications. "The Illustrated Magazine," however,

comes with the promise (which we shall see how it will keep) of two-fold excellence—first-rate literature, revealing "new graces by the pure light of art." The *premier pas* is satisfactory, and auspicious of a healthy career. The editor takes the lead with a paper entitled "Elizabeth and Victoria," a contrast of the past and the present, worked out with some truth and humour. We quote a specimen of the spirit in which this paper is written.



ELIZABETH.

"Ha! those were the merry days—the golden times of England they were!" How often may this be heard from the tradesman, the mechanic, as he is borne past Tilbury Fort, and the thoughts of Queen Elizabeth, of her "golden days," ring in his brain; and, living only in the nineteenth century, he has some vague, perplexing notion that he has missed an Eden only by a hundred years or two. He thinks not—why should he?—of the luxury he now purchases for a shilling; a luxury not compassable in those golden days by all the power and wealth of all the combining sovereigns of the earth; for he is the passenger of a Gravesend steam-boat, the fare twelvence.

So closed the golden days of Queen Elizabeth; leaving us, in all the virtues and comforts of the world, the bankrupt children of Queen Victoria! Unworthy is he of the balmy sweetness of this blessed May who can think so! A churlish, foolish, moody traitor to the spirit of goodness and beauty that, as with the bounty of the sun and air, calls up forms of loveliness in his path, and surrounds him with ten thousand household blessings! With active presences, which the poet of Elizabeth, in even his large love for man, could scarce have dreamed of; or, dreaming, seen them as a part of fairy fantasy—a cloud-woven pageant! Let the man who lives by his daily sweat pause in his toil, and, with his foot upon his spade, watch the white smoke that floats in the distance; listen to the lessening thunder of the engine that, instinct with Vulcanian life, has rushed, devouring space, before it. That little curl of smoke hangs in the air a thing of blessed promise—that roar of the engine is the melody of hope to unborn generations. But now the digger of the soil looks moodily at that vapour, and his heart is festering with the curse upon the devil Steam; that fiend that grinds his bones beneath the wheels of British Juggernaut. Poor creature! The seeming demon is a beneficent presence that, in the ripeness of time, will work regeneration of the hopes of men. Let the poor man—the mechanic of a town—look around him. Let him in his own house, humble though it be,



VICTORIA.

acknowledge the presence of a thousand comforts which, had he lived two centuries ago, he could not with a baron's wealth have purchased. Not mere creature enjoyments; but humanizing, refining pleasures, drawing man nearer to man, expanding the human heart, and imparting to humanity the truest greatness in the greatest gentleness.

Next is a well-timed paper, "Sindh and its Ameers," by Mrs. Postans. "International Copyright at the Old Bailey" is a piece of sly, but good-humoured, sarcasm upon our Copyright Act as regards America. Some pleasant lines to "Nell Gwynne's Looking-Glass," by Laman Blanchard, are illustrated with an engraving of the precious relic, in the possession of Sir Page Dicks, of Port-hall. "Great Western Sketches," by Wildrake, are rich in the "twinkling eccentricities" of brother Jonathan. "Bonaparte at Miss Frounce's School," by G. A. A'Beckett, is a burlesque on the days when "Bony" was the English "bogie." "Mr. Grubbe's Night with Memnon," by Albert Smith, is a broad sketch of an antiquarian noodle. "The Doctor's Boy," by Mark Lemon, is a piece of banter. The long paper on the "Children's Employment Commission" has neither the merit of fitness nor novelty.

Here our enumeration must end; though it should be mentioned, as a feature of the plan of the magazine, that the number contains a review, "by way of extract," of Lady Sale's most interesting Journal. The "illuminations," some sixty in number, are designed by Leech, Sargent, Meadows, and other artists. The wrapper, printed in colours, is particularly beautiful.

ENGLAND AND FRANCE;

OR

THE SISTERS.

A ROMANCE OF REAL LIFE.

By HENRY COCKTON,

AUTHOR OF "VALENTINE VOX," "STANLEY THORN," ETC.

CHAPTER IX.

ON FASHION.



N the midst of this gaiety Sir Arthur's personal appearance underwent a very striking metamorphosis. He had been for years in the habit of wearing—except, indeed, when full dressed—top-boots, buckskin smalls, a buff waistcoat, and a blue coat, the back of which was covered with powder to the waist, while the collar was glazed by the friction of his queue. But all these things were *queue à queue* reformed:—First the thick and everlasting

buckskins were discarded; then the eternal tops, which looked like the remains of a pair of antediluvian chimney-pots; then the buff waistcoat, and then the immortal blue coat of peculiar cut. All this was effected gradually, of course, and with unexampled tact on the part of Caroline, who found that by nothing short of actual fascination could the change upon which she had set her soul be accomplished.

At length, however, the *queue* itself was doomed; and as Caroline felt that, in seeking to effect the removal of that, she was treading upon dangerous ground, she proceeded with infinite caution.

"Darling," she observed, having resolutely made up her mind, "you are looking extremely well this morning. Really, I must, in order to compete with you, take a few lessons in the art of dressing to advantage."

"Well, it's a most delightful study, I must say," replied Sir Arthur. "When you have got as far into it as I have, you'll doubtless pursue it with zeal."

"Nay, study will be valueless in that case, my love, because then I shall be perfect."

"Lady Cleveland, your politeness is always conspicuous. However, I am happy to find that in your estimation I am perfect at last. Upon my honour, I began to think I never *should* be."

"Perfect? Did I say perfect? Well, you are—very nearly; if I could but prevail upon you to adopt *one* suggestion you would be quite."

"Is there another alteration contemplated then? I have heard of the transmigration of souls, and sometimes fancy myself one of the *Metempsychi*; I have also heard of the transmogrification of bodies, but I firmly believe that no body was so perfectly transmogrified as mine has been. No one knows me! I am passed in the streets by my oldest friends. They look, it is true, and then stop, and go on again, and then turn to have another look, in the perfect conviction that they have seen me somewhere, but utterly unable to recollect where. And upon my life I don't wonder at it, for really I sometimes hardly know myself."

"But of course you will admit that your appearance has been greatly improved by the change?"

"Why I don't know, my dear. I used to look a respectable old fellow enough, but now I scarcely know what I do look like! I seem to belong to no defined order of architecture unless it be the Composite—made up of all."

"But I would have you belong to the Corinthian order."

"Look at the apex, my love; that's the point: look at the apex! You have heard of its being absurd to expect to find an old head upon young shoulders of course?"

"That is the very anomaly, dear, to which I am now about to draw your attention."

"I perceive, I perceive; I knew it would come to that! You would have me dye my hair?"



"Oh no! Dye it, dear? Certainly not! But I'll tell you what I'd have I'd have that little pigtail removed. It causes people to imagine that you are old; and it really is neither useful nor ornamental."

"In this particular instance I cannot admire your taste. But don't let us say another word about the matter; it is now the only emblem of ancient respectability I have about me."

"But why do you wish to have any such emblem? You have surely no desire to look ancient? Now do have it off, there's a darling; do to oblige me, and I'll give you I don't know how many kisses. You will oblige me, darling, will you not?"

"In anything but that."

"But what on earth is the use of it? What is there in it? Really I can see nothing at all in the nasty thing, and yet you pride yourself upon it."

"I certainly do; it's a fact; I admit it to be a fact."

"Then I'll have it preserved as a natural curiosity. I will, upon my honour. Let it be taken off, and I'll have it framed and glazed; I'll have it placed upon a hook, surmounted by a tablet, whereon shall be inscribed—'Hereby hangs a tail.' It's a positive nuisance; I can't bear to see it!"

"Well then I'll tell you what I'll do; I'll make a compromise with you; I'll wear it inside. There. I'll wear it inside."

"Oh but it will tickle you then, dear; I know it will."

"Well, never mind, my love, let it tickle."

"No, no; have it taken off; do, there's a love!"

"But, my dear, I shall look so naked!"

"Oh, dear me, no. Not if you have a beautiful dark brown peruke."

"Oh, a wig! It is in that way you wish me to disguise myself then, is it? Lady Cleveland! Lady Cleveland!"

"Well, never mind, dear; then he shall not be teased. The darling shall still have his beautiful tail. It sha'n't be cut off at all, it sha'n't—unless indeed in a fit of somnambulism I rise up some night and lay violent hands upon it while he is in a sound sweet sleep! All the little boys shall continue to laugh, and all the little girls shall continue to giggle, and all the old maids shall continue to admire; the darling shall still be so conspicuous that in a crowd he shall be known by the length of his tail; and he shall have it curled too; he shall have a curly tail tied up with blue ribbon; he shall look ancient."

"You'll want me next to wear a pair of moustaches!"

"No, indeed, I will not, dear; I'll not, upon my honour! Do only get rid of that dirty little tail, and I'll promise to ask nothing more. It looks so tasteless—so excessively Gothic!"

"I do believe," said Sir Arthur, "that if you were to wish me to take off my head, I should do it."

"Nay, that, dear, I never should wish you to do, because a head is very necessary; but it is not necessary for a head to have a tail. But you will oblige me, darling? You will have it off, will you not?"

"Why, my love, I'll see about it; I don't like, you know, to be precipitate. I'll turn the thing over in my mind, and give you an answer in the morning."

"I know what that answer will be," said Caroline, with a smile which seemed to fire his soul, "I see it in your eyes! You are a darling, you are! and if you make your appearance as I wish you to-morrow, I shall be so happy! You can't conceive how many kisses I'll give you!"

"Now am I fool, or am I not?" said Sir Arthur in the strictest possible confidence to himself, when alone. "Am I or am I not a fool? Just let me consider. For what purpose did I marry? Was it or was it not with a view to permanent happiness? Did I not make up my mind to do all in my power to ensure that happiness? Of course! And how can I be happy if Caroline is not, seeing that her happiness constitutes mine? But then is this yielding to her every wish indicative on my part of weakness or of strength?—Does it evince a strong mind or a weak one? That's the point—that's the point. And really I incline to the belief that that mind which prompts a man to soar above paltry considerations, and even to risk being sneered at by the world, with the view of securing domestic felicity, must be strong. I wish to make her happy; that is my object, and that object, if possible, shall be attained. This little alteration in my dress, it appears, will contribute to her happiness: am I not therefore bound to make that alteration? I flatter myself that I have as strong a mind as any man; I have hitherto had the courage to brave the world's sneering remarks, and that courage shall not desert me now. But, after all, what is required? Merely that I should make myself appear as young as possible, and that is precisely what I am anxious to do. What sacrifice do I make then by thus yielding? Do I not yield to my own personal advantage?—The tail shall come off, and I'll have a wig! She is all the world to me—she is my world—every hope I have is centred in her. I therefore will have a wig: I will look juvenile; I will make the difference between us appear to be as trifling as possible. Some may think me a fool—let them: I know, I suppose, whether I'm a fool or not to study my own comforts! It is natural—very natural—for her to wish me to look young, and am I not therefore bound to yield to that wish? I will yield, and, by thus yielding, promote the great object in view."

Having arrived at this conclusion by virtue of taking into consideration immediate happiness only, he sent at once for a fashionable peruke, and as it singularly enough happened that that individual had a brown wig by him which fitted to a hair, the queue was removed, and the whole thing arranged to the entire satisfaction of the talented artist.

"Now," thought Sir Arthur, on being summoned to dinner by the servant, who scarcely knew him, "Now, then, for a surprise. If this doesn't astonish her I don't know what will."

Lightly and gaily he accordingly proceeded to the room in which he knew she was waiting to be led down to dinner—for those little attentions, even when they were alone, were held to be indispensable—and was greeted the very moment he entered with a loud exclamation of amazement, mingled with delight.

"Well," said he, with delight, "what do you think of me now?"

"Oh! I never saw such an improvement!—never! Why you really look twenty years younger!"

"I'm getting on, I think! I shall do by and bye!—I shall be quite an exquisite shortly!"

"And did you give me all that trouble to prevail upon you to effect this improvement? Do you not yourself admit the improvement to be amazing?"

"Why, it certainly is amazing!—at least it amazes me!—for I don't know myself! When I look in the glass I am really inclined to turn round and ask myself pointedly, what business I have here?"

"Well, you do look charming! I positively never beheld so great a change. You are a good soul—a dear kind creature! I know that you did this to delight me. But how exactly it fits, dear!—do turn round; how nicely it is parted behind, and what an elegant style! It looks so excessively natural too!—I am certain that no one will ever imagine that it is not your own hair. Oh, it is so becoming, and makes you appear so young. Do you not think so yourself, dear?"

"Why, I shall be able to tell you more about it when I know myself better. I have scarcely introduced myself to myself yet! when I have become a little reconciled to my appearance, I shall be able to form, perhaps, a more correct judgment."

For several days Caroline could scarcely keep her eyes off Sir Arthur, and while he was happy to see her delighted, she became, when in society, almost as proud of his appearance as he was of hers. Unhappily, however, this did not last long; for as they were exceedingly gay, and kept it up with infinite spirit night after night, he caught such horrible colds that he was constantly coughing. This, of course, was excessively annoying to her, and more especially as it almost invariably happened that his most violent fits came on while they were at table. There would she sit on these occasions in agony, glancing round, in order to ascertain in what manner it was noticed, and experiencing the most acute pang when she fancied that the affliction was ascribed to his age.

"For Heaven's sake, my dear," she at length exclaimed, "get rid of that horrible cough! If Charles cannot cure you, send for some one else; send for all the physicians in London rather than be pestered perpetually in this way! Really it has become quite distressing to hear you."

"I must get rid of it, my love," he replied, "I really must; but you know what Charles says: you know he assures me that all the physicians in the world can do me no good unless I make up my mind to keep quiet for a time."

"Then, for goodness sake, do keep quiet, for I really cannot bear to go out with you while you are thus: you make me feel dreadfully ill."

"These hours, as Charles says, these hours have done it; this practice, my love, of turning night into day has occasioned it all. I'm as strong now as ever I was in my life, but this cough, this nasty cough shakes me. If I could only lay up for a week,—not lay up exactly, but live regular, as I used to live, and have my natural rest, I should be as well as ever."

"Then do lay up for a week; for it really is afflicting to see you in this state."

"Well then, my love, we had better let them all know at once that our party originally fixed for Thursday is postponed; had we not?"

"Postponed! Our grand party? Impossible! The party at which all the foreign ambassadors are to be present postponed! What on earth, my dear, are you dreaming about?"

"Did you not say that I had better lay up for a week?"

"Of course, I did; but not until after we have had our party!"

"Well, my dear, then let it be after! I am not at all particular, you know. I'm anxious only to make things agreeable! But—" Here Sir Arthur was seized with a fit of coughing, which at once put an end to the colloquy, for Caroline immediately quitted the room.

On the Thursday evening they of course had their party, and an exceedingly brilliant affair it was. It was the only one of the kind they had ever had; that is to say the only one on so magnificent a scale, a great proportion of the guests being "foreigners of distinction," but everything passed off with infinite *éclat*, and Sir Arthur, whom the excitement completely knocked up, went into training on the Friday.

This was of course under Charles, for Sir Arthur contended that no one knew the peculiar strength of his constitution so well, and having promised to adhere strictly to the regimen prescribed, he became like a child in his hands.

But even this received a most decided check in *limine*; and it may just as well be at once explained how:—

On the Friday, Charles, after having given his uncle a respectable pill, drove him to the residence of a friend, who lived about seven miles from town, and who prized himself upon having the most valuable collection of aquatic birds in England.

"Do you call that instinct or reason?" inquired Charles, pointing to a number of ducks in the grass.

"Man is too proud," returned Sir Arthur, "to admit that any other animal has reason."

"Yet it must," rejoined Charles, "be something approaching reason which prompts them immediately after rain, although they come from widely different countries,—for you perceive there are Australians, Poles, Muscovites, and Hollanders—to leave their natural element to feed upon worms!"

This observation, which Charles intended to apply only to ducks in general,

was repeated by Sir Arthur to Caroline, who was, in consequence, exceedingly indignant.

"He alluded, I presume, to our party," she observed.

"Tut, nonsense, my dear," returned Sir Arthur, "What can our party have to do with it?"

"There were persons from those countries, you will remember! We had Russians, Poles, Dutchmen, and so on! They left their natural circle, in other words their natural element, to feed upon us—that is to say, of course, to feed upon worms! Upon my honour we ought to feel ourselves very highly flattered!"

"Ridiculous, my love; oh, absurd! The application was ingenious, I admit, but I am perfectly sure that Charles never meant anything of the kind."

Caroline, however, was not so sure; she had frequently suspected Charles of having made certain severe observations upon the style in which they lived, and therefore resolved to make a breach between him and his uncle, while Sir Arthur, who, apart from his matrimonial infatuation, was a man of sound sense and keen perception, thought it possible, very possible, that if they were not in reality worms, the foreign persons whom they had entertained held them to be very little better.

He alluded, I presume, to our party," she observed.

"Tut, nonsense, my dear," returned Sir Arthur, "What can our party have to do with it?"

"There were persons from those countries, you will remember! We had Russians, Poles, Dutchmen, and so on! They left their natural circle, in other words their natural element, to feed upon us—that is to say, of course, to feed upon worms! Upon my honour we ought to feel ourselves very highly flattered!"

"Ridiculous, my love; oh, absurd! The application was ingenious, I admit, but I am perfectly sure that Charles never meant anything of the kind."

Caroline, however, was not so sure; she had frequently suspected Charles of having made certain severe observations upon the style in which they lived, and therefore resolved to make a breach between him and his uncle, while Sir Arthur, who, apart from his matrimonial infatuation, was a man of sound sense and keen perception, thought it possible, very possible, that if they were not in reality worms, the foreign persons whom they had entertained held them to be very little better.

He alluded, I presume, to our party," she observed.

"Tut, nonsense, my dear," returned Sir Arthur, "What can our party have to do with it?"

"There were persons from those countries, you will remember! We had Russians, Poles, Dutchmen, and so on! They left their natural circle, in other words their natural element, to feed upon us—that is to say, of course, to feed upon worms! Upon my honour we ought to feel ourselves very highly flattered!"

"Ridiculous, my love; oh, absurd! The application was ingenious, I admit, but I am perfectly sure that Charles never meant anything of the kind."

Caroline, however, was not so sure; she had frequently suspected Charles of having made certain severe observations upon the style in which they lived, and therefore resolved to make a breach between him and his uncle, while Sir Arthur, who, apart from his matrimonial infatuation, was a man of sound sense and keen perception, thought it possible, very possible, that if they were not in reality worms, the foreign persons whom they had entertained held them to be very little better.

He alluded, I presume, to our party," she observed.

"Tut, nonsense, my dear," returned Sir Arthur, "What can our party have to do with it?"

"There were persons from those countries, you will remember! We had Russians, Poles, Dutchmen, and so on! They left their natural circle, in other words their natural element, to feed upon us—that is to say, of course, to feed upon worms! Upon my honour we ought to feel ourselves very highly flattered!"

"Ridiculous, my love; oh, absurd! The application was ingenious, I admit, but I am perfectly sure that Charles never meant anything of the kind."

Caroline, however, was not so sure; she had frequently suspected Charles of having made certain severe observations upon the style in which they lived, and therefore resolved to make a breach between him and his uncle, while Sir Arthur, who, apart from his matrimonial infatuation, was a man of sound sense and keen perception, thought it possible, very possible, that if they were not in reality worms, the foreign persons whom they had entertained held them to be very little better.

He alluded, I presume, to our party," she observed.

"Tut, nonsense, my dear," returned Sir Arthur, "What can our party have to do with it?"

"There were persons from those countries, you will remember! We had Russians, Poles, Dutchmen, and so on! They left their natural circle, in other words their natural element, to feed upon us—that is to say, of course, to feed upon worms! Upon my honour we ought to feel ourselves very highly flattered!"

"Ridiculous, my love; oh, absurd! The application was ingenious, I admit, but I am perfectly sure that Charles never meant anything of the kind."

Caroline, however, was not so sure; she had frequently suspected Charles of having made certain severe observations upon the style in which they lived, and therefore resolved to make a breach between him and his uncle, while Sir Arthur, who, apart from his matrimonial infatuation, was a man of sound sense and keen perception, thought it possible, very possible, that if they were not in reality worms, the foreign persons whom they had entertained held them to be very little better.

He alluded, I presume, to our party," she observed.

"Tut, nonsense, my dear," returned Sir Arthur, "What can our party have to do with it?"

"There were persons from those countries, you will remember! We had Russians, Poles, Dutchmen, and so on! They left their natural circle, in other words their natural element, to feed upon us—that is to say, of course, to feed upon worms! Upon my honour we ought to feel ourselves very highly flattered!"

"Ridiculous, my love; oh, absurd! The application was ingenious, I admit, but I am perfectly sure that Charles never meant anything of the kind."

Caroline, however, was not so sure; she had frequently suspected Charles of having made certain severe observations upon the style in which they lived, and therefore resolved to make a breach between him and his uncle, while Sir Arthur, who, apart from his matrimonial infatuation, was a man of sound sense and keen perception, thought it possible, very possible, that if they were not in reality worms, the foreign persons whom they had entertained held them to be very little better.

He alluded, I presume, to our party," she observed.

"Tut, nonsense, my dear," returned Sir Arthur, "What can our party have to do with it?"

"There were persons from those countries, you will remember! We had Russians, Poles, Dutchmen, and so on! They left their natural circle, in other words their natural element, to feed upon us—that is to say, of course, to feed upon worms! Upon my honour we ought to feel ourselves very highly flattered!"

"Ridiculous, my love; oh, absurd! The application was ingenious, I admit, but I am perfectly sure that Charles never meant anything of the kind."

Caroline, however, was not so sure; she had frequently suspected Charles of having made certain severe observations upon the style in which they lived, and therefore resolved to make a breach between him and his uncle, while Sir Arthur, who, apart from his matrimonial infatuation, was a man of sound sense and keen perception, thought it possible, very possible, that if they were not in reality worms, the foreign persons whom they had entertained held them to be very little better.

He alluded, I presume, to our party," she observed.

"Tut, nonsense, my dear," returned Sir Arthur, "What can our party have to do with it?"

"There were persons from those countries, you will remember! We had Russians, Poles, Dutchmen, and so on! They left their natural circle, in other words their natural element, to feed upon us—that is to say, of course, to feed upon worms! Upon my honour we ought to feel ourselves very highly flattered!"

"Ridiculous, my love; oh, absurd! The application was ingenious, I admit, but I am perfectly sure that Charles never meant anything of the kind."

Caroline, however, was not so sure; she had frequently suspected Charles of having made certain severe observations upon the style in which they lived, and therefore resolved to make a breach between him and his uncle, while Sir Arthur, who, apart from his matrimonial infatuation, was a man of sound sense and keen perception, thought it possible, very possible, that if they were not in reality worms, the foreign persons whom they had entertained held them to be very little better.

He alluded, I presume, to our party," she observed.

"Tut, nonsense, my dear," returned Sir Arthur, "What can our party have to do with it?"

"There were persons from those countries, you will remember! We had Russians, Poles, Dutchmen, and so on! They left their natural circle, in other words their natural element, to feed upon us—that is to say, of course, to feed upon worms! Upon my honour we ought to feel ourselves very highly flattered!"

"Ridiculous, my love; oh, absurd! The application was ingenious, I admit, but I am perfectly sure that Charles never meant anything of the kind."

Caroline, however, was not so sure; she had frequently suspected Charles of having made certain severe observations upon the style in which they lived, and therefore resolved to make a breach between him and his uncle, while Sir Arthur, who, apart from his matrimonial infatuation, was a man of sound sense and keen perception, thought it possible, very possible, that if they were not in reality worms, the foreign persons whom they had entertained held them to be very little better.

He alluded, I presume, to our party," she observed.

"Tut, nonsense, my dear," returned Sir Arthur, "What can our party have to do with it?"

"There were persons from those countries, you will remember! We had Russians, Poles, Dutchmen, and so on! They left their natural circle, in other words their natural element, to feed upon us—that is to say, of course, to feed upon worms! Upon my honour we ought to feel ourselves very highly flattered!"

"Ridiculous, my love; oh, absurd! The application was ingenious, I admit, but I am perfectly sure that Charles never meant anything of the kind."

Caroline, however, was not so sure; she had frequently suspected Charles of having made certain severe observations upon the style in which they lived, and therefore resolved to make a breach between him and his uncle, while Sir Arthur, who, apart from his matrimonial infatuation, was a man of sound sense and keen perception, thought it possible, very possible, that if they were not in reality worms, the foreign persons whom they had entertained held them to be very little better.

He alluded, I presume, to our party," she observed.

"Tut, nonsense, my dear," returned Sir Arthur, "What can our party have to do with it?"

"There were persons from those countries, you will remember! We had Russians, Poles, Dutchmen, and so on! They left their natural circle, in other words their natural element, to feed upon us—that is to say, of course, to feed upon worms! Upon my honour we ought to feel ourselves very highly flattered!"

"Ridiculous, my love; oh, absurd! The application was ingenious, I admit, but I am perfectly sure that Charles never meant anything of the kind."

Caroline, however, was not so sure; she had frequently suspected Charles of having made certain severe observations upon the style in which they lived, and therefore resolved to make a breach between him and his uncle, while Sir Arthur, who, apart from his matrimonial infatuation, was a man of sound sense and keen perception, thought it possible, very possible, that if they were not in reality worms, the foreign persons whom they had entertained held them to be very little better.

He alluded, I presume, to our party," she observed.

"Tut, nonsense, my dear," returned Sir Arthur, "What can our party have to do with it?"

"There were persons from those countries, you will remember! We had Russians, Poles, Dutchmen, and so on! They left their natural circle, in other words their natural element, to feed upon us—that is to say, of course, to feed upon worms! Upon my honour we ought to feel ourselves very highly flattered!"

"Ridiculous, my love; oh, absurd! The application was ingenious, I admit, but I am perfectly sure that Charles never meant anything of the kind."

Caroline, however, was not so sure; she had frequently suspected Charles of having made certain severe observations upon the style in which they lived, and therefore resolved to make a breach between him and his uncle, while Sir Arthur, who, apart from his matrimonial infatuation, was a man of sound sense and keen perception, thought it possible, very possible, that if they were not in reality worms, the foreign persons whom they had entertained held them to be very little better.

He alluded, I presume, to our party," she observed.

"Tut, nonsense, my dear," returned Sir Arthur, "What can our party have to do with it?"

"There were persons from those countries, you will remember! We had Russians, Poles, Dutchmen, and so on! They left their natural circle, in other words their natural element, to feed upon us—that is to say, of course, to feed upon worms! Upon my honour we ought to feel ourselves very highly flattered!"

"Ridiculous, my love; oh, absurd! The application was ingenious, I admit, but I am perfectly sure that Charles never meant anything of the kind."

Caroline, however, was not so sure; she had frequently suspected Charles of having made certain severe observations upon the style in which they lived, and therefore resolved to make a breach between him and his uncle, while Sir Arthur, who, apart from his matrimonial infatuation, was a man of sound sense and keen perception, thought it possible, very possible, that if they were not in reality worms, the foreign persons whom they had entertained held them to be very little better.

He alluded, I presume, to our party," she observed.

"Tut, nonsense, my dear," returned Sir Arthur, "What can our party have to do with it?"

"There were persons from those countries, you will remember! We had Russians, Poles, Dutchmen, and so on! They left their natural circle, in other words their natural element, to feed upon us—that is to say, of course, to feed upon worms! Upon my honour we ought to feel ourselves very highly flattered!"

"Ridiculous, my love; oh, absurd! The application was ingenious, I admit, but I am perfectly sure that Charles never meant anything of the kind."

Caroline, however, was not so sure; she had frequently suspected Charles of having made certain severe observations upon the style in which they lived, and therefore resolved to make a breach between him and his uncle, while Sir Arthur, who, apart from his matrimonial infatuation, was a man of sound sense and keen perception, thought it possible, very possible, that if they were not in reality worms, the foreign persons whom they had entertained held them to be very little better.

He alluded, I presume, to our party," she observed.

"Tut, nonsense, my dear," returned Sir Arthur, "What can our party have to do with it?"

"There were persons from those countries, you will remember! We had Russians, Poles, Dutchmen, and so on! They left their natural circle, in other words their natural element, to feed upon us—that is to say, of course, to feed upon worms! Upon my honour we ought to feel ourselves very highly flattered!"



(To be continued weekly.)

THE ROYAL ACADEMY.

The Royal Academy opened its doors to the public on Monday last, and some thousands of persons have ere this gratified their

prestige for the pictorial by a ramble within its "walls of art." We have lounged our hour with the common crowd, and must confess that we make our report of that hour's impressions with very

decided disappointment. The exhibition is hardly good—certainly not great. The pictures, with one or two very fair exceptions of

new aspirants, are generally of a mediocre class, and the *coup d'œil* is anything but imposing. The gems of the Gallery are some

of the best tributes of never-failing names; but these we go seeking out and dwelling over as it were episodically, as they are scattered like little islands of genius amid seas of common-place.

There is no grand and imposing *ensemble*—the eye is not arrested here, dazzled there, fixed anywhere, by prominent indications of mind-mastery. In vain we look for the grandeur of history—the

solemn beauty of Scripture—the fiery spirit of imagination—the glowing poetry of romance—dancing before the gaze, and making

the walls oracular with the voice of Genius, crying "I am here!" Oh, but you have a wide ocean of portraiture! Yes, you may

glance at one broad side of the great room, and glut your fancy with as much tailoring and millinery and as little flesh and blood

as ever were gathered within gilt framing. You have a few rare exceptions of beauty creeping up into light, and these you catch eagerly, and thank their painters for arresting your attention from

the crowd of chalk faces in the fashions of the day, which have tired your vision with the glare of a Barbadoes street. Alas! when

will the patronage of the Academy be so industriously directed and so well bestowed that Art shall revel in the true freedom of greatness, and shine before us at these exhibitions in the many guises of

genius, with the glory of truth and nature glowing in them all? When will the *trade* in Art be less evident, and its loftier spirit more developed before the world? When will imposing and undenied beauty become—not its exception, but its rule?

Let us now glance at a few of the subjects which seemed most to attract the earlier notice of the public. Of course these are chiefly by

Landseer, Stanfield, Roberts, Creswick, Etty, Eastlake, Howard, Martin, Turner, McClise, and a few more recorded favourites; some, however, only the favourites of cliques. From all these Landseer,

Roberts, and Stanfield, in their several manners, bear away the palm. Landseer's pictures are indeed glorious copies from the natural

world. Look at that child-portrait (100), the noble boy, with his sweet ingenuous face, mounted on that living pony, and as bright

and animated as all the other forms of life around. Look at the dogs, the game, every object that has had blood within its veins,

and outward denotements of beauty—and see how they are painted, how they speak! Or turn to those horses (313) brought to drink

at that transparent water—that crystal, that seems to shine and move within its depths. There is genius, if you will!

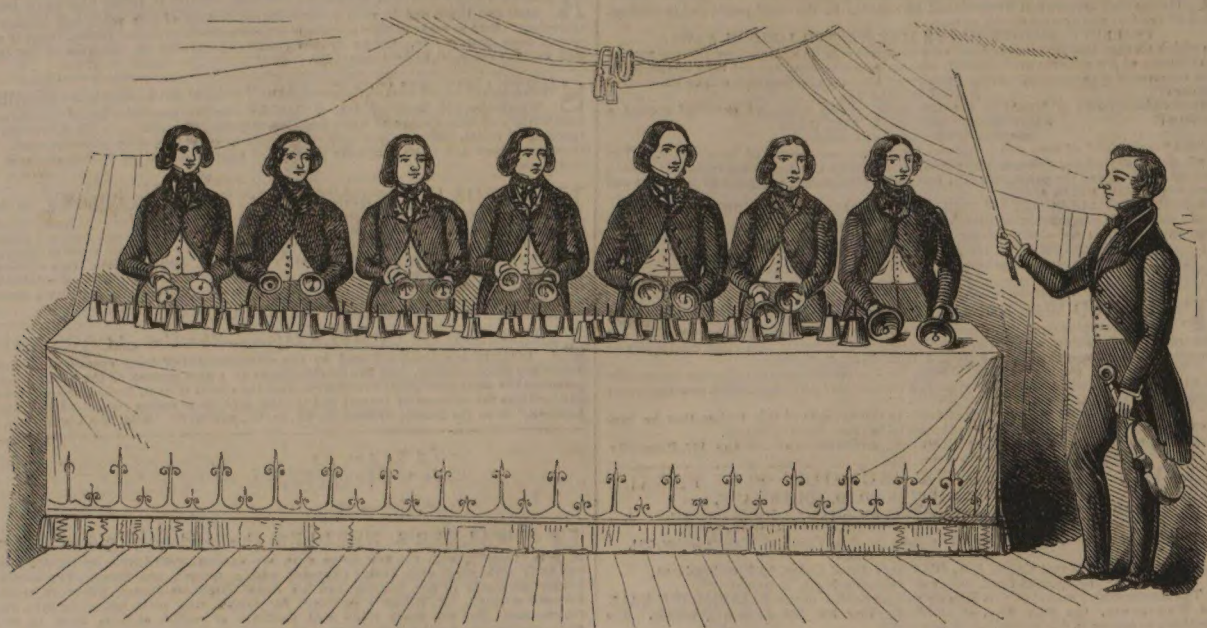
Now run away to Turner—presto—from sober beauty to sparkling insanity. Here is a man who has a mania for painting atmospheres—who brings you before his canvass, and makes you sneeze

with the dust of powdered rainbows—who thinks that, with corruscations of blue light and brimstone, he can make harmonies of sunbeams, and keep them floating in the air. It is pitiable to see

art so deformed into madness. See those allegories—they are the painted fripperies of intellect in masquerade. And yet, glance at one or two efforts to represent the real, and see how much force of

colour this artist can bring into sun and water; how he can rear temples in the gold that glitters from the sky, and make vessels

sparkle with the ore on sail and prow as they career over the dancing wavelets. He is an inscrutable person that same erratic Mr. Turner.

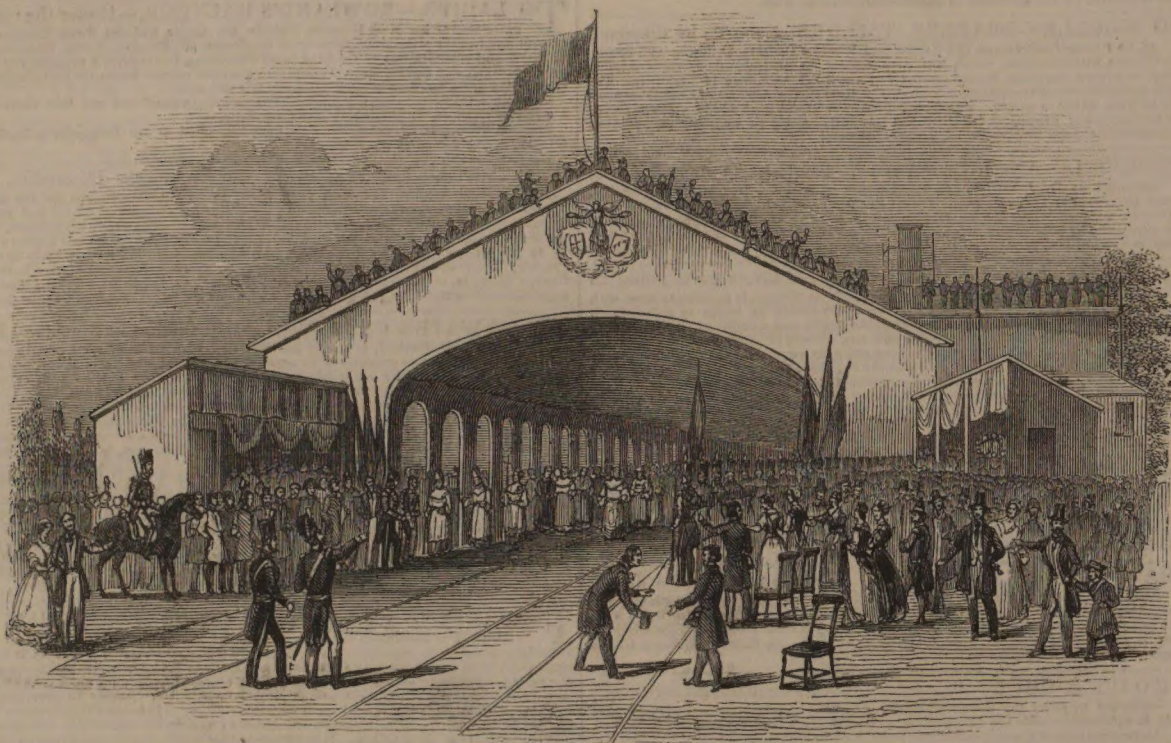


THE LANCASHIRE BELL-RINGERS, AT THE ADELPHI THEATRE.

The tintinnabulatory feats of these "Seven sons of Campanology" have excited considerable interest at the Adelphi theatre, on the same evenings with the performances of the great Wizard of the North. The ringers are stated to be natives of Lancashire, a county celebrated in the annals of Campanology. The precision with which each performer takes up the required note, and his management of the bells so as to give effect to the most delicate and piano passages, or to others as loud and martial as a military brass band, are truly surprising, as well as their general improvement, by incessant practice, since their last performance in the metropolis. Their bells, forty-two in number, form the chromatic scale in the compass of three octaves and a fourth, thus enabling them to perform the most difficult overtures, waltzes, quadrilles, &c.

It would be injustice not to mention with praise the conductor of the Campanological band, Mr. H. Johnson, whose skill has mainly contributed to the perfection of their performances.

Ringling, by the way, is a practice which is said to be peculiar to England, which, for that reason, and the dexterity of its inhabitants in composing and ringing musical peals, wherein the sounds interchange in regular order, is called the Ringing Island. Formerly, too, men of rank practised bell-ringing as a pastime. The treatise on this subject at present in highest repute, is "Campanologia Improved," 1733, where the reader will find all the terms explained of single, plain bob, grandsire bob, single bob minor, grandsire treble, bob major, caters, ten-in, bob royal, cinque, and twelve-in or bob maximus, with all their regular permutations.



OPENING OF THE ROUEN AND PARIS RAILROAD.

(From our own Correspondent.)

ROUEN, May 4.—Yesterday took place the ceremony of opening the first railroad which is to connect more closely England and France together. It is scarcely necessary to remind you that this extraordinary work has been the joint undertaking of French and English speculators, with the aid of the Government of France. The total distance is about 84 miles, or 436 French kilometres. There are five tunnels, viz., Rolleboise (the longest), 2625 metres; Villers, 1700; Tourville, 435; Batignolles, 329; and Venalles, 246. The metre is about two inches over the English yard. The works were commenced in July, 1841, and, in less than two years, the entire line has been finished. Mr. Locke is the engineer, and Messrs. Mackenzie and Brasse are the contractors. Mr. Reid has been the resident managing director for the English shareholders; and M. Charles Lafitte, the banker, has represented the French speculators. The utmost cordiality has reigned throughout the enterprise, not only between the French and English directorship, but also between the workmen on the line, the majority of whom have been British. The terminus in Paris is in the Rue St. Lazare, which is also that of the Versailles (right bank) and St. Germain. It is proposed to erect a terminus expressly for the Rouen line, at a future period. The train which brought down the first batch of visitors from Paris quitted that capital at 8 A.M.; it consisted of upwards of 500 persons. The royal train left an hour afterwards, bringing the Duc de Nemours, the future Regent of France; the Duc de Montpensier, youngest son of the King of the French; M. Duchatel, the Minister of the Interior; M. Lacave Laplagne, the Minister of the Interior; M. Teste, the Minister of Public Works; M. Cunin Gridaine, the Minister of Commerce and Agriculture; M. Sauzet, the President of the Chamber of Deputies; M. Rambuteau, the Prefect of the Seine; with many peers, deputies, &c. The royal train amounted to 200 persons; and the carriage in which their Royal Highnesses were seated, a sketch of which is supplied by our artist, was very splendid, being of a very large size, the interior fitted up like a *salon*, with elegant furniture complete and superb chairs for the Princes. On the outside panels were the arms of Paris and Rouen—the ship the former, and the lamb the latter. On the whole line the population turned out to witness the passing of the royal train, which did not proceed at a very rapid rate owing to the praiseworthy precautions taken to prevent the festivities of the day being clouded by any untoward event. The *fête* was, however, on this side of the line and not at the capital; and never did the old town of Rouen present such an appearance as this day. This city was formerly the capital of Normandy; but is now called the best city of the department of the Seine, and is an archbishop's see. It is situated on the declivity of a hill, north of the river Seine, and if the suburbs be included it is about eight miles in circumference. There is not in Europe, perhaps, a more enchanting view than from the summit of the hill of St. Catherine. There are magnificent boulevards, bordered with noble trees, round the town, very requisite for the comfort of the population, exceeding 100,000, cooped up as it is in narrow streets. Rouen is the mart for Havre, and vessels of 300

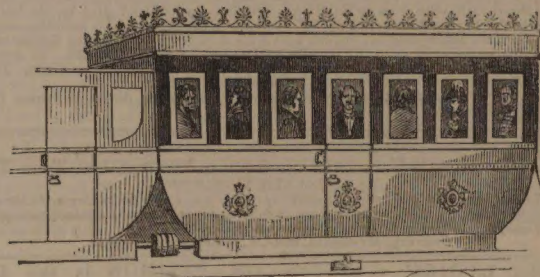
tons burthen come up here. Those of larger burthen go to Quilleboeuf. Rouen is essentially a manufacturing town, and is one of the largest trading towns in France. It is the potteries, as well as the hardware, cotton, and woollen factory, and it would be difficult to name any article of merchandise of consumption which is not to be found manufactured. The Gothic cathedral, originally built by William the Conqueror, still attracts visitors from all parts of the world. Here are inscriptions in memory of our Richard Cœur de Lion, Henry his nephew, and the Duke of Bedford, who was regent. The wooden roof of the Palace of Justice, resembling a ship keel upwards, is one of the "lions" of Rouen. The Cotton and Cloth Halls, and the Exchange, are curious buildings. Rouen was the birthplace of the great Corneille, of Fontanelle, of Blondel the mathematician, and Daniel the historian; of course it will be recollected that Joan of Arc was burnt in this town, in 1430, for witchcraft. At an early hour this morning the streets assumed a most animated appearance by the National Guards pouring in from all quarters, and the peasants with their peculiar costume. The Champ de Mars was the rendezvous for the troops. The tricoloured emblem, we noticed, was worn very generally by the people as well as the military. It was truly picturesque to gaze on the varied colours of the trades of Rouen, amongst which the printers were conspicuous; they had a banner, one side of which represented Guttenberg, and the other Sennfelder. The flags had a very gay aspect, and it was gratifying to find the working classes thus associating themselves spontaneously with the most elevated classes of society, to render homage to the genius of man in bringing not merely provinces, but nations, closer together. At half-past ten the *cortège* moved from the Champ de Mars towards the Boulevards, and from thence to the Hôtel de Ville, traversing the quarters of the city inhabited by the operatives, who cheered loudly the bands representing their particular industry. At the Town-house the municipal authorities joined the procession, and at the Prefecture the departmental chiefs were included. As it traversed the quays the effect was enchanting. All the vessels were decorated with flags. Every balcony, window, and roof was occupied with a dense mass of spectators. On the arrival of the *cortège* at the station it divided itself—one part spreading itself into the lovely meadows, and the other occupying the road. A little before one the first convoy from Paris arrived amidst great cheering, and in about a quarter of an hour afterwards the enthusiasm was unbounded as the royal train came in. A superb breakfast, including the choicest wines, was given by the Company to about 700 persons, and the royal breakfast saloon was rendered remarkable by the conferring of the cross of the Legion of Honour on the engineer, Mr. Locke, and M. Thibaudau, the secretary. This was done by the Duke of Nemours, in a very complimentary address, in the King's name. The terminus was decorated with the arms of Paris and Rouen. All the deputies representing the latter town were present, including the venerable M. Lafitte. The breakfast over, the ceremony of the benediction took place. The Cardinal Archbishop of Paris, with an immense attendance of clergy, entered the saloon, where two locomotives were standing, on one of which was Mr. Locke. The prayer

and blessing were then uttered. After that the royal dukes reviewed the troops. There were two passing showers during the ceremony, which caused great annoyance to the ladies, and much amusement to the gentlemen, as there was a general retreat. The Parisian visitors quitted by a train at 4 P.M. At the Champ de Mars there was a discharge of fireworks, and at the Hôtel de Ville the princes partook of a grand banquet. They return to Paris to-morrow morning.

Thus has terminated a very memorable ceremony. The importance of the railroad is not merely in reference to the advantages to be derived from Paris and Rouen communicating with each other in less than four hours and a half, but in the difference of time to be gained by the line between London and Paris. With the Brighton steamers to Dieppe, and the Southampton steamers to Havre, there will now be a passage varying from seventeen hours to twenty-four hours to start from London and to reach Paris. The transit between the two countries will now be increased immensely, and with the best results it is hoped for the preservation of peace and amity.

From another Correspondent.

ROUEN, Wednesday, May 3rd.—At eight this morning we started for the railway, at which time hundreds of persons were flocking from all parts to the station. In a short time the civic and law authorities in their splendid costumes, attended by the military and National Guards, began to assemble, as also the priests and artisans in procession, bearing banners, describing the craft to which each body belonged. So quickly did they collect, that two entrances were made, one on each side of the railway, the terminus of which is situated on the south of the river Seine, on the opposite side to the town. The edifice is large and commodious; it is yet unfinished. The front facing the rail was fitted up with good taste. On each side of the line were meadows of great extent, into which the military, National Guard, &c., and trade processions came in countless numbers, each company preceded by drums, and some with brass bands, adding much to enliven the already interesting scene. Some idea of the numbers may be formed, by the time it took them to collect. From eight in the morning two continuous streams of persons six and eight in rank, were pouring in till after 12 o'clock in the day. The fire-brigade with engines, and gas companies with banners, were most prominent with the military schools, and the collection of trades and National Guards from all the surrounding villages within the distance of twelve miles, some coming by steam-boats from Ellebeuf (eighteen miles). At half-past twelve the scene became exceedingly animated, companies of horse and foot forming over an immense tract as far as the eye could reach. Elegantly-dressed ladies filled the road-way immediately under the roof of the terminus, and on each hand outside the same were placed chairs for the accommodation of such as could obtain tickets; the roof also was occupied by the employers and their friends; the omnibusses also in the service of the railway were decorated with ribbons, the roofs covered with persons, and were drawn up in line. Anxiety for the arrival was now manifest, and at ten minutes before one a train of twelve carriages arrived from Paris, containing the directors and others; at ten minutes past one the train of thirteen carriages, containing the Duke d'Aumale and his attendants, came in. A short delay took place in consequence of some difficulty in removing the first train off the line previous to the last one coming up. The duke, who was looking well, was accommodated with a carriage of larger dimensions and more elegant construction than the rest, having velvet seats on all sides, with a chair for his highness, and enriched on the outside with or-moulu mouldings, and the arms of Rouen and Paris in or-moulu on the panels.



The tricoloured flag also decorated the front of the engine. The duke and suite, upon alighting, were met by the mayor and council, and ushered into the offices of the company, which had been prepared for the occasion, where the Archbishop of Rouen waited to receive them. The trains moved back on the rail, and after a short suspense, during which the company had refreshed themselves, the distinguished party took their seats in two booths which had been erected for the occasion, the bishop and priests on the right hand, the duke and suite on the left. The spectacle at this moment was imposing beyond description. Countless banners waving in the air, music playing on all sides, and guns firing. The front ranks of the reserved seats at the terminus and on each side of the line being also filled with ladies, among whom might be observed a predominance of the lofty *Normandy cap*, which, to our minds, considerably heightened the effect. The soldiery and townsfolk filled every place as far as the eye could reach; even the bridge and quay in the distance were literally crowded with persons who were unable to proceed further, because of the numbers before them, patiently waiting the return of the procession. The spot being surrounded by hills looked one vast arena, and took the reflection back to the days when Rome assembled its thousands for the *fête*. At two o'clock, however, to the mortification of the spectators, a smart rain fell, which lasted a quarter of an hour. The ladies, many of whom had no head covering, ran from place to place for shelter, but only to be disappointed. Such a dense mass was assembled outside as to defy all attempts to return to their homes; others seemed determined to brave the storm even in its worst mood, and stood the shower-bath with heroic patience. The rain having ceased, the drums again beat for the stragglers to return to their posts, and the duke and his suite, preceded by the cathedral boys, some in white surplices and black tunics, others with red skullcaps and pink sashes, proceeded up the line of rail, returning through the troops, to the gate, on his way to the Hotel de Ville, the whole company, &c., forming in procession, during which period the priests, under the conduct of the archbishop, went through a service intended as a blessing on the undertaking, nearly 200 chanters assisting in the ceremony. We now moved to catch a glimpse of apartments that had been fitted up to refresh the distinguished visitors, &c., which occupied the whole length of the building, being in three compartments, altogether occupying a space of about 260 feet by 80 feet in width. All seemed admirably arranged, a table being placed at the head (at which the duke sat) running the whole width of the building. Then followed four tables lengthways, leaving one table in the centre for the viands, &c. Large services of plate were sent from Paris for the occasion, which unfortunately we could not see to perfection.

THE FACTORY QUESTION.—A meeting of millowners and manufacturers was held, on Tuesday, at the British Coffee-house, Cockspur-street, for the purpose of offering their opinions and affording information upon the Factory Bill to the members of Parliament for the boroughs in and counties of Yorkshire, Lancashire, Chester, and Derby. A large number of influential millowners and manufacturers from the above counties was in attendance, and amongst the members of Parliament we observed the Hon. Mr. Stuart Wortley, Sir G. Strickland, Sir J. Johnson, Mr. Tollemache, Mr. Ferrand, Mr. Brocklehurst, Mr. T. Egerton, Mr. Wilbraham, Mr. Hardy, Mr. Grimsditch, Mr. Stansfeld, Mr. Hindley, Mr. Walker, Mr. Fielden, Mr. Ainsworth, and Mr. Lascelles. The Hon. John Stuart Wortley was called to the chair. A series of resolutions was then proposed, but, after considerable discussion, their further consideration was postponed, and the meeting adjourned.

The recent regulation of the Post-office affecting letters posted in this country directed to places beyond the territories of the East India Company, has been cancelled by the authority of the Postmaster-General. Such letters and newspapers consequently need not now be addressed "to the care of correspondents in India," but may be sent in the usual way. The order was cancelled on Saturday last.

LONDON: Printed by ROBERT PALMER (at the office of Palmer and Clayton), 10, Cranecourt, Fleet-street; and published by WILLIAM LITTLE, at 108, Strand, where all communications are requested to be addressed.—SATURDAY, May 13, 1843.